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BAKER (MICHAEL) JR INC BEAVER PA  
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM, UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM (INVENTORY NUM--ETC(U)  
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# POTOMAC RIVER BASIN



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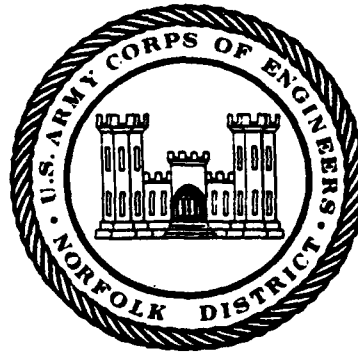
Name of Dam: Unimin Tailings Dam

Location: Frederick County, Commonwealth of Virginia

Inventory Number: VA 06918

LEVEL II

## PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM



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### PREPARED FOR

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## 20. Abstract

Pursuant to Public Law 92-367, Phase I Inspection Reports are prepared under guidance contained in the recommended guidelines for safety inspection of dams, published by the Office of Chief of Engineers, Washington, D. C. 20314. The purpose of a Phase I Inspection is to identify expeditiously those dams which may pose hazards to human life or property. The assessment of the general conditions of the dam is based upon available data and visual inspection. Detailed investigation and analyses involving topographic mapping, subsurface investigations, testing, and detailed computational evaluations are beyond the scope of a Phase I investigation; however, the investigation is intended to identify any need for such studies.

Based upon the field conditions at the time of the field inspection and all available engineering data, the Phase I report addresses the hydraulic, hydrologic, geologic, geotechnic, and structural aspects of the dam. The engineering techniques employed give a reasonably accurate assessment of the conditions of the dam. It should be realized that certain engineering aspects cannot be fully analyzed during a Phase I inspection. Assessment and remedial measures in the report include the requirements of additional indepth study when necessary.

Phase I reports include project information of the dam appurtenances, all existing engineering data, operational procedures, hydraulic/hydrologic data of the watershed, dam stability, visual inspection report and an assessment including required remedial measures.

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## PREFACE

This report is prepared under guidance contained in the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams, for Phase I Investigations. Copies of these guidelines may be obtained from the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C. 20314. The purpose of a Phase I investigation is to identify expeditiously those dams which may pose hazards to human life or property. The assessment of the general condition of the dam is based upon available data and visual inspections. Detailed investigation and analyses involving topographic mapping, subsurface investigations testing, and detailed computational evaluations are beyond the scope of a Phase I investigation; however, the investigation is intended to identify any need for such studies.

In reviewing this report, it should be realized that the reported condition of the dam is based on observations of field conditions at the time of inspection along with data available to the inspection team. In cases where the reservoir was lowered or drained prior to inspection, such action, while improving the stability and safety of the dam, removes the normal load on the structure and may obscure certain conditions which might otherwise be detectable if inspected under the normal operating environment of the structure.

It is important to note that the condition of a dam depends on numerous and constantly changing internal and external conditions, and is evolutionary in nature. It would be incorrect to assume that the present condition of the dam will continue to represent the condition of the dam at some point in the future. Only through continued care and inspection can there be any chance that unsafe conditions be detected.

Phase I inspections are not intended to provide detailed hydrologic and hydraulic analyses. In accordance with the established guidelines, the spillway design flood is based on the estimated "Probable Maximum Flood" for the region (flood discharges that may be expected from the most severe combination of critical meteorologic and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible), or fractions thereof. Because of the magnitude and rarity of such a storm event, a finding that a spillway will not pass the design flood should not be interpreted as necessarily posing a highly inadequate condition. The design flood provides a measure of relative spillway capacity and serves as an aid in determining the need for more detailed hydrologic and hydraulic studies, considering the size of the dam, its general condition, and the downstream damage potential.

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT  
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

CONTENTS

|   | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| Preface . . . . .                                 | i           |
| Brief Assessment of Dam . . . . .                 | 1           |
| Overall View of Dam . . . . .                     | 5           |
| Section 1: Project Information . . . . .          | 7           |
| Section 2: Engineering Data . . . . .             | 13          |
| Section 3: Visual Inspection . . . . .            | 17          |
| Section 4: Operational Procedures . . . . .       | 21          |
| Section 5: Hydraulic/Hydrologic Data . . . . .    | 23          |
| Section 6: Dam Stability . . . . .                | 25          |
| Section 7: Assessment/Remedial Measures . . . . . | 29          |

Appendices

- I. Plates
- II. Photographs
- III. Visual Inspection Check List
- IV. General References

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT  
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

Name of Dam: Unimin Tailings Dam  
State: Commonwealth of Virginia  
County: Frederick  
USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Hayfield, Virginia  
Stream: Mine Spring Run  
Date of Inspection: 30 and 31 October 1980

BRIEF ASSESSMENT OF DAM

Unimin Tailings Dam is an earthfill embankment approximately 84.9 feet high<sup>1</sup> and 574 feet long. The principal spillway is a 30-inch bituminous coated corrugated metal pipe riser and the emergency spillway is a natural, topographic saddle on the right<sup>2</sup> side of the reservoir. The dam is on Mine Spring Run approximately 1.2 miles south of Gore, Virginia and is used for waste tailing storage by the owner, Unimin Corporation. Unimin Tailings Dam is an "intermediate" size-"high" hazard structure as defined by the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams.

Adequate stability analyses were available for review during these investigations which evaluated the factors of safety against complete and partial failures of both the upstream and downstream embankments. All of the analyses performed indicated acceptable factors of safety against failure.

Using the Corps of Engineers' screening criteria for initial review of spillway adequacy, the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) was selected as the spillway design flood (SDF). The spillways are capable of passing 100 percent of the PMF without overtopping the crest of the dam, therefore, they are adjudged as adequate.

The dam and appurtenant structures were found to be in good overall condition at the time of the inspection. Maintenance of the dam is not considered adequate. Some minor erosion has taken place below a bench on both the upstream and downstream embankments. The junction of the downstream embankment with both the left and right abutments below the bench showed moderate erosion. Some areas of the embankment and the emergency spillway are sparsely vegetated.

<sup>1</sup>Measured from the downstream toe of the dam to the embankment crest.

<sup>2</sup>Facing downstream.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

A formal warning system and emergency action plan should be developed and put into operation as soon as possible. The emergency action plan should list steps to be taken to help prevent failure of the dam in an emergency.

Regular, formal inspections should be made of the dam and appurtenant structures. A check list should be compiled for use by the owner's representative as a guide for the inspections. Maintenance items should be completed annually.


The following repair items should be accomplished as part of the general maintenance of the dam:

- 1) Repair all areas of erosion on the embankment, particularly the erosion rills on the downstream embankment below the bench.
- 2) Establish a grass cover over all the sparsely vegetated areas of the embankment.
- 3) Repair and riprap the eroded junctions of the left and right abutments with the downstream embankment.
- 4) Uncover the outlet pipes for the internal chimney and lateral seepage control drains.
- 5) Establish a grass cover over the sparsely vegetated areas of the emergency spillway.
- 6) Install a staff gage to monitor reservoir levels above normal pool.

MICHAEL BAKER, JR., INC. SUBMITTED:

Original signed by  
JAMES A. WALSH

James A. Walsh, P.E.  
Chief, Design Branch

  
Michael Baker, III, P.E.  
Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDED:

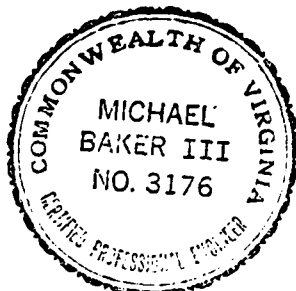
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Colonel, Corps of Engineers  
District Engineer



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 30 1981

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM





OVERALL VIEW OF DAM

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT  
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM  
NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM ID# VA 06918

SECTION 1 - PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 General

1.1.1 Authority: Public Law 92-367, 8 August 1972, authorized the Secretary of the Army, through the Corps of Engineers, to initiate a national program of safety inspections of dams throughout the United States. The Norfolk District has been assigned the responsibility of supervising the inspection of dams in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

1.1.2 Purpose of Inspection: The purpose is to conduct a Phase I inspection according to the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams (Reference 12, Appendix IV). The main responsibility is to expeditiously identify those dams which may be a potential hazard to human life or property.

1.2 Description of Project:

1.2.1 Description of Dam and Appurtenances: Unimin Tailings Dam is an earthfill embankment approximately 84.9 feet high and 574 feet long.<sup>1</sup> The crest of the dam is about 21.6 feet wide and the minimum elevation is at 920.6 feet Temporary Bench Mark (T.B.M.).<sup>2</sup> The upstream embankment has a 12 foot wide bench about 17 feet below the crest of the dam at about elevation 904.0 feet. The slope of the upstream embankment is approximately 2.5H:1V (Horizontal to Vertical) above the bench and 2.8H:1V below the bench. The downstream embankment has a 12 foot wide bench about 30 feet below the crest of the dam. The slope of the downstream embankment is approximately 2.5H:1V above the bench and

<sup>1</sup>Measured from the downstream toe of dam to the lowest point on the embankment crest.

<sup>2</sup>All elevations are referenced to a Temporary Bench Mark located on the top of a concrete marker on the top of dam, right abutment. The assumed elevation is 921.0 feet.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

2.6H:1V below the bench. There is no slope protection on the upstream embankment.

According to the As-Built Report (Reference 18, Appendix IV), a key trench was excavated into the foundation soils near the upstream toe of the embankment and backfilled with compacted clayey soils. The embankment was constructed of on-site borrow materials from upstream of the dam. The As-Built Report indicates that chimney and lateral drains were constructed for internal embankment drainage.

The principal spillway is a 30-inch diameter bituminous coated corrugated metal pipe (B.C.C.M.P.) serving as a fixed riser. According to the owner's representative, the top portion of the 30-inch riser was broken and a 42-inch diameter pipe was placed over the existing pipe and anchored with cables. Concrete was used to fill the space between the 30-inch diameter pipe and the 42-inch diameter pipe.

The spillway riser has a crest elevation of 901.0 feet T.B.M. The riser is located to the right of center of the embankment.<sup>3</sup> A trash rack has been fitted to the top of the riser. According to the As-Built Report, the riser extends down about 39 feet where it connects to a 24-inch diameter B.C.C.M.P. outlet. The 24-inch B.C.C.M.P. is approximately 414 feet long and passes beneath the embankment at a slope of approximately 5.5 percent. This pipe exits into a riprap lined plunge pool at the center of the downstream toe of the embankment. The outlet pipe extends about 5.5 feet beyond the embankment. This extension is unsupported. The invert elevation at the principal spillway outlet is at 838.7 feet T.B.M. The tailwater elevation in the plunge pool is at 836.2 feet T.B.M.

A gate valve with accompanying valve stem extension and support brace is attached to the spillway riser pipe approximately four feet below the crest of the riser pipe (Photo 1). This valve is used during periods

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<sup>3</sup>Facing downstream.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

of low flow to maintain the water supply into the fresh water pond located downstream.

The emergency spillway makes use of the natural depression in a topographic saddle located to the right and upstream of the embankment. Flood discharges would pass through this saddle and return to Mine Spring Run 1.5 miles downstream of the dam. In addition to the natural depression, some excavation and clearing has been done in the emergency spillway. A discharge channel approximately 6 feet deep and 24.5 feet wide was excavated through the saddle. A temporary access road was constructed across this discharge channel, filling in a portion of the channel and giving the emergency spillway an effective minimum elevation of 903.6 feet T.B.M. (Photo 2).

The reservoir is fed by runoff and springs from a 2.03 square mile drainage area south and east of the dam. Mine Spring run drains the watershed from the south and a small unnamed tributary drains from the east. The upper reaches of the watershed are densely wooded, very steep slopes of Great North Mountain. The lower reaches, while less steep, are also densely wooded.

There are no facilities for draining the reservoir.

- 1.2.2      Location: Unimin Tailings Dam is located in Frederick County, Virginia approximately 1.2 miles south of Gore, Virginia on Mine Spring Run, a tributary to Back Creek. A Location Plan is included in this report in Appendix I.
- 1.2.3      Size Classification: The Unimin Tailings Dam is 84.9 feet high and the reservoir storage at the crest of the dam (elevation 920.6 feet T.B.M.) is 1,102 acre-feet. Therefore, the dam is in the "intermediate" size category as defined by the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams.
- 1.2.4      Hazard Classification: Three homes are located approximately 1.0 miles downstream of the dam. A business (C. E. Minerals) is

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

located approximately 1.2 miles downstream and three more homes are situated about 1.4 miles downstream of the dam. There is danger of loss of human life from large flows downstream of the dam. Therefore, Unimin Tailings Dam is in the "high" hazard category as defined by the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams. The hazard classification used to categorize dams is a function of location only and is not related to its stability or probability of failure.

- 1.2.5 Ownership: The dam is owned by Unimin Corporation, P.O. Box 38, Gore, Virginia 22637.
- 1.2.6 Purpose: The dam is used to provide waste tailing storage for the mining and milling of glass sand by Unimin Corporation.
- 1.2.7 Design and Construction History: The dam was designed by D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers, Inc. in 1976. The dam was constructed by Perry Engineering Company in the fall of 1976 and spring of 1977.
- 1.2.8 Normal Operating Procedures: The reservoir is normally operated at the crest of the principal spillway (elevation 901.0 feet T.B.M.). A gate valve (as described in Section 1.2.1) can be operated during periods of low flow to lower the level in the reservoir approximately 4 feet in order to maintain the water supply into the fresh water pond located downstream. No formal operating procedures are followed for this dam.

### 1.3 Pertinent Data

- 1.3.1 Drainage Area: The drainage area tributary to the dam is 2.03 square miles.
- 1.3.2 Discharge at Dam Site: The maximum discharge from the reservoir is unknown.  
Principal and Emergency Spillways:  
Pool level at top of dam . . . . 46,011 c.f.s.
- 1.3.3 Dam and Reservoir Data: Pertinent data on the dam and reservoir are provided in the following table:

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

TABLE 1.1 DAM AND RESERVOIR DATA

| Item                                     | Elevation<br>(feet T.B.M.) | Area<br>(acres) | Reservoir<br>Capacity |                       | Length<br>(feet) |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|  |                            |                 | Acre-<br>feet         | Watershed<br>(inches) |                  |
| Top of Dam<br>(minimum)                  | 920.6                      | 36.7            | 1102                  | 10.2                  | 1950             |
| Principal<br>Spillway<br>Crest           | 901.0                      | 23.0            | 518                   | 4.8                   | 1400             |
| Streambed at<br>downstream<br>toe of dam | 835.7                      | -               | -                     | -                     | -                |

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## SECTION 2 - ENGINEERING DATA

- 2.1 Design: The site was selected and the impoundment was designed by D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers, Inc. Subsurface conditions were investigated and the embankment was designed to provide maximum strength for stability. Stability analyses were conducted and factors of safety were calculated and are explained in detail in Section 6 - Dam Stability (also see Plates 9 and 10, Appendix I). Control of seepage was provided by an upstream impervious blanket, a cut-off beneath the embankment, downstream lateral drains, and an internal chimney drain within the embankment. The embankment design and construction is presented on Plates 2 and 3 in Appendix I. Boring and Test Pit locations are shown on Plate 6. Soils information and subsurface conditions are shown on Plates 7 and 8.

The principal and emergency spillways were designed to decant clarified water and discharge flood peaks. The principal spillway was designed as two 30-inch diameter vertical inlet pipes connected to a 24-inch diameter pipe passing beneath the embankment. However, during the field investigation, only one 42-inch diameter vertical inlet pipe connected to a 24-inch diameter outlet pipe was observed. A plunge pool was designed to still water exiting from the outlet pipe. An emergency spillway was designed to use the natural topographic saddle on the right side of the reservoir to discharge flood flows. The principal and emergency spillway designs and pertinent information are shown on Plates 4, 5, and 11 in Appendix I.

- 2.2 Construction: The dam was constructed by Perry Engineering Company in the fall and early winter of 1976 and spring of 1977. A majority of the construction was inspected by D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers' representatives. The upstream embankment materials (typically clayey) were placed and compacted at moisture contents 5 to 6 percent above optimum according to the Standard Proctor Method (ASTM D698-70) to allow for expected differential settlement over variable foundation and abutment materials without detrimental affects to the water retention capabilities. The downstream embankment materials (typically sandy) were placed at moisture contents just slightly (2 to 3 percent) above optimum to also allow for differential movement between the valley floor and abutments. However, they were not placed as wet as the upstream embankment materials to provide the necessary strength and stability for the structure.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

Fill was placed in lifts of 6 to 9 inches. Compaction was achieved with 6 to 8 passes of a Caterpillar 815 compactor and Bros. SP-255 DA compactor. Much of the fill placement was observed by a D'Appolonia engineer. Periodic fill density testing was completed by D'Appolonia when a representative was present. The densities were compared to the results of Standard Proctor Tests conducted on various samples of borrow to provide comparison of fill densities to maximum densities and optimum water contents. Recompression was conducted in areas where tests indicated unsatisfactory compaction. In areas where fill placement was not inspected by the engineer, borings were taken to obtain undisturbed samples of the fill that were tested for density. The available summary of all density test results indicates final densities were in excess of 93 percent of maximum dry density.

Four piezometers and four settlement plates were installed beneath the upstream embankment area prior to construction to monitor foundation behavior and groundwater levels.

Eight additional piezometers were installed beneath and within the downstream embankment after construction to monitor actual water levels for comparison with assumed design water levels. The locations and depths of the upstream piezometers and settlement plates are shown on Plates 2 and 7 in Appendix I and are designated as I-1 through I-4 (both a piezometer and an adjacent settlement plate were assigned the same identification number). The locations and depths of the eight downstream piezometers, designated B-1 through B-6, are also shown on Plates 2 and 7. Typical piezometer and settlement plate construction details are shown on Plate 5.

During the construction of approximately the lower one-third of the embankment, no extensive differential settlement reportedly occurred. However, settlement measurements were not taken thereafter. Measurements in the piezometers during and after construction do not indicate detrimental water levels within the embankment.

A key trench, varying between 5 feet to 13 feet deep and 17 to 23 feet wide, was excavated into the foundation soils near the upstream toe of the dam using normal excavating techniques. The trench did not extend to bedrock. Depth of the trench was governed by the original groundwater level and was shallow in the creek area. Initial clayey backfill could not be compacted in thin lifts due to water levels in the

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM



trench. The initial lift was as thick as four feet and was compacted as well as possible. After the first lift, the trench was backfilled in 9 to 12 inch thick layers compacted to specified density. In addition to the key trench, an impervious blanket of clayey soil was placed over the toe of the upstream embankment, the immediate reservoir bottom, and the upstream abutments. The extent of the key trench and impervious blanket are illustrated on Plates 2 and 3.

- 2.3 Evaluation: The as-built drawings, design information and construction information were adequate to assess all aspects of design and construction. The hydrologic and hydraulic data provided were adequate for review. The assessments made in this report are based on this engineering data along with field observations.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## SECTION 3 - VISUAL INSPECTION

### 3.1 Findings

- 3.1.1 General: The field inspection was conducted on 30 and 31 October 1980. At the time of inspection, the pool elevation was 897.4 feet T.B.M. and the elevation of the tailwater in the stilling basin for the principal spillway was 836.2 feet T.B.M. The weather was clear with temperatures in the 50's (degrees Fahrenheit). The ground surface of the embankment and abutments was generally dry. The dam and appurtenant structures were found to be in fair to good overall condition at the time of the inspection. Deficiencies found during the inspection will require remedial treatment. The following are brief summaries of deficiencies found during the inspection. A field sketch of conditions noted during the inspection is presented as Plate 1 in Appendix I. The complete visual inspection check list is provided in Appendix III. Control surveys of the dam are performed regularly but were unavailable for this report. In addition, state Mining Inspectors visually review the dam as part of their regular inspections.
- 3.1.2 Dam: The embankment was found to be in generally good condition, with no surface cracks or sloughs. The bench on the upstream embankment and the embankment above the bench are well vegetated with grass and are not eroded. The upstream embankment bench appears to be a reverse terrace and water appears to have lain on the back side of the bench periodically. Minor erosion has occurred just below the bench down to the edge of water. This segment is below normal pool level. The downstream embankment is benched. Above this bench there are a few erosion rills. Generally, these rills do not extend to the crest of the dam. With the exception of the rills, the downstream embankment above the bench is well vegetated. The downstream embankment below the bench is moderately eroded. Erosion rills up to one foot deep extend from the bench to the toe of the dam. The downstream embankment below the bench has many areas of sparse vegetation.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

The junctions of the abutments and the upstream embankment are not eroded. The right upstream abutment contains the access roads to the upstream bench and crest of the dam. The slopes for the access roads are very steep and appear to be subject to erosion and minor slides. The access roads are primarily cut into bedrock and are generally situated on the abutment rather than the dam. The junctions of the abutments and the downstream embankment are slightly to moderately eroded. Moderate erosion occurs from the toe of the dam about three quarters of the way up to the bench on both the left and right abutment junctions.

A seep is located immediately to the left of the principal spillway outlet. The flow rate of this seep was estimated to be three to five gallons per minute (g.p.m.). This seepage is believed to be from a sediment covered outlet pipe for the internal chimney and lateral seepage relief drainage system. In the past, runoff from the junction of the left abutment with the downstream embankment was directed through a separate diversion channel away from the approximate area of this outlet. However, runoff now discharges over the outlet area and sediment has probably covered the pipe. A very minor seep is located beneath the decant outlet pipe. No other seepage or drainage was observed at the time of inspection.

- 3.1.3 Appurtenant Structures: The principal spillway riser and accompanying gate valve (as described in Section 1.2.1) appear to be in good condition and operable. The outlet pipe for the principal spillway is in good condition, although the pipe does extend, unsupported, out from the embankment approximately 5.5 feet. The plunge pool discharge area for the principal spillway is also in good condition. The principal spillway inlet, outlet, discharge area and downstream channel are all free from debris and other obstructions.

The emergency spillway (as described in Section 1.2.1) is primarily a natural topographic saddle and is in relatively good

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

condition. The saddle has been cleared and some areas of the spillway have been excavated for a discharge channel while other areas have been filled. No significant signs of erosion were observed, although vegetation is sparse, particularly on the excavation and fill areas. The emergency spillway, with the exception of the temporary access road across the discharge channel, is free from debris and is unobstructed.

- 3.1.4 Reservoir Area: The slopes immediately surrounding the reservoir are steep and heavily wooded. The banks of the reservoir are well vegetated with grasses and some trees down to the edge of the banks. No indications of significant erosion were observed. Soundings taken at the principal spillway riser show the water to be approximately 5 feet deep at the time of inspection.
- 3.1.5 Downstream Channel: Discharge from the principal spillway of Unimin Tailings Dam flows into the reservoir for the Unimin Fresh Water Pond Dam almost immediately after leaving the discharge area. The short length of discharge channel is free from debris or other obstructions. Beyond the Fresh Water Pond Dam, the downstream channel is a natural stream channel, known as Mine Spring Run, which drains into Back Creek at the town of Gore, Virginia. There is some minor debris and miscellaneous junk present in the channel immediately downstream of the Fresh Water Pond Dam.
- 3.1.6 Instrumentation: Eight piezometers were observed on the dam at the time of inspection. Five piezometers were on the crest of the dam; one at either end and a cluster of three near the center. The piezometer on the left end of the crest measured 60 feet to the bottom with no water. The piezometer on the right end of the crest and the three clustered near the center were plugged near the surface and could not be measured.

The remaining three piezometers were clustered near the center of the bench on the downstream embankment. The piezometer with the highest elevation could not be measured because of

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

equipment malfunction. The next lower piezometer measured 15.17 feet to the bottom with no water. The lowest piezometer measured 32.87 feet to the bottom with no water.

There was no other instrumentation observed at the dam during the inspection.

- 3.2 Evaluation: The embankment was found to be in generally fair to good condition, with no surface cracks or sloughs. All areas of erosion on the embankment should be repaired, particularly the erosion rills below the bench on the downstream embankment. A grass cover should be established on all the sparsely vegetated areas of the embankment. The eroded junctions of the left and right abutments with the downstream embankment should be repaired and riprap placed to minimize erosion. The drains for seepage control that are reportedly located to the left and right of the principal spillway outlet should be uncovered.

The appurtenant structures were found to be in generally good condition. A grass cover should be established throughout the natural saddle that comprises the emergency spillway. A staff gage should be installed to monitor reservoir levels above normal pool.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## SECTION 4 - OPERATION PROCEDURES

- 4.1 Procedures: The operation of the dam is primarily an automatic function controlled by the principal and emergency spillways. Water entering the reservoir flows into the principal spillway at elevation 901.0 feet T.B.M. When inflow is sufficient, the reservoir level rises above elevation 903.6 feet T.B.M. and discharges through the emergency spillway. When inflow is insufficient to meet the water needs downstream, the gate valve attached to the principal spillway riser can be operated to lower the reservoir approximately four feet below the crest of the principal spillway.
- 4.2 Maintenance of Dam: Maintenance of the dam is the responsibility of the owner. Brief daily inspections are made by the owner. Also, the alignment of the crest and elevations are surveyed regularly. However, a formal inspection and maintenance schedule has not been instituted.
- 4.3 Maintenance of Operating Facilities: The only operating facility at the dam is the gate valve attached to the spillway riser. The maintenance of this facility is the responsibility of the owner. A formal inspection and maintenance schedule has not been instituted.
- 4.4 Warning System: At the present time, there is no warning system or emergency action plan in operation.
- 4.5 Evaluation: Past maintenance of the dam has been inadequate. Regular, formal inspections should be made of the dam and appurtenant structures. A check list should be compiled for use by the owner's representative as a guide for the inspections. Maintenance items should be corrected annually. A warning system and emergency action plan should be developed and put into operation as soon as possible.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## SECTION 5 - HYDRAULIC/HYDROLOGIC DATA

- 5.1 Design: Hydraulic and hydrologic design data were provided by D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers, Inc. in the form of an As-Built Report (Reference 18, Appendix IV). The hydraulic and hydrologic data provided were adequate for review and are presented on Plates 4, 5 and 11 of this report.
- 5.2 Hydrologic Information: No rainfall, stream gage or reservoir stage records are maintained for this dam.
- 5.3 Flood Experience: No records were available.
- 5.4 Flood Potential: The Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) and 1/2 Probable Maximum Flood (1/2 PMF) were routed through the reservoir by the use of the HEC-1 DB computer program (Reference 9, Appendix IV) and appropriate unit hydrograph, precipitation, and storage-outflow data. Clark's  $T_c$  and R coefficients for the local drainage areas were estimated from basin characteristics. The rainfall applied to the unit hydrograph was taken from publications by the U.S. Weather Bureau and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (References 16 and 17, Appendix IV). Rainfall losses for the PMF and 1/2 PMF were estimated at an initial loss of 1.0 inches and a constant loss rate of 0.05 inches per hour thereafter.
- 5.5 Reservoir Regulation: Pertinent dam and reservoir data are provided in Table 1.1, paragraph 1.3.3.

Regulation of flow from the reservoir is primarily automatic. Normal flows are maintained by the crest of the principal spillway at elevation 901.0 feet T.B.M. Some manual regulation of flow is possible by the operation of the gate valve attached to the principal spillway riser which is approximately four feet below the spillway crest.

The outlet discharge capacity was computed by hand; reservoir area was planimetered from the Hayfield, Virginia, 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle; and storage capacity was computed by the HEC-1 DB program. Outlet discharge capacity and storage capacity curves were computed to elevations above the crest of the dam. All flood routings were begun with the dam at normal pool. Flow through both spillways was included in the routings.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN T... DAM

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- 5.6 Overtopping Potential: The probable rise of the reservoir and other pertinent information on reservoir performance are shown in the following table:

TABLE 5.1 RESERVOIR PERFORMANCE

| Item  | Normal <sup>1</sup> | Hydrographs |                  |
|---|---------------------|-------------|------------------|
|   |                     | 1/2<br>PMF  | PMF <sup>2</sup> |
| Peak flow, c.f.s.   |                     |             |                  |
| Inflow  | 1                   | 7,177       | 14,353           |
| Outflow   | 1                   | 7,001       | 14,105           |
| Peak elev., ft. T.B.M.  | 897.4               | 909.3       | 911.7            |
| Emergency spillway <sup>3</sup><br>(elev. 903.6 ft. T.B.M.)   |                     |             |                  |
| Depth of flow, ft.  | -                   | 5.7         | 8.2              |
| Average velocity, f.p.s.                                      | -                   | 11.1        | 13.3             |
| Duration of flow, hrs.  | -                   | 25.0        | 30.7             |
| Non-overflow section <sup>3</sup><br>(elev. 920.6 ft. T.B.M.) |                     |             |                  |
| Depth of flow, ft.  | -                   | -           | -                |
| Average velocity, f.p.s.                                      | -                   | -           | -                |
| Total duration of over-<br>topping, hrs.                      | -                   | -           | -                |
| Tailwater elev.,<br>ft. T.B.M.                                | 836.2               | -           | -                |

<sup>1</sup> Conditions at time of inspection.

<sup>2</sup> The PMF is an estimate of flood discharges that may be expected from the most severe combination of critical meteorologic and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible in a region.

<sup>3</sup> Velocity estimates were based on critical depth at control section.

- 5.7 Reservoir Emptying Potential: There are no facilities for draining the reservoir.

- 5.8 Evaluation: Unimin Tailings Dam is an "intermediate" size - "high" hazard dam requiring evaluation for a spillway design flood (SDF) equal to the PMF. The spillways are capable of passing 100 percent of the PMF without overtopping the crest of the dam. The spillway is adjudged as adequate.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM



## SECTION 6 - DAM STABILITY

- 6.1 Foundation and Abutments: The dam is located in the Valley and Ridge physiographic province of Virginia which is characterized by folded and faulted sedimentary rocks. Bedrock in the vicinity of the dam consists of steeply dipping late Silurian to early Devonian age limestone, sandstone (Oriskany), and shale. The Oriskany sandstone is clearly exposed on the northern abutment. The actual foundation for the dam consists of thick combination residual, alluvial, and colluvial soils according to the As-Built Report (Reference 18, Appendix IV). The principal soils underlying the dam are clayey silts. Some sandy soils are present.

The dam foundation was not keyed into bedrock. Seepage control consists of a 17 to 23 foot wide, by 5 to 13 foot deep key trench excavated into the foundation soils near the upstream toe of the dam and backfilled with compacted clayey soils. In addition, an impervious blanket of clayey soils was placed over the toe of the upstream embankment, the immediate reservoir bottom, and the upstream abutments.

### 6.2 Embankment

- 6.2.1 Materials: According to the available as-built report, the embankment materials range from clayey to sandy soils. The clayey soils were placed on the upstream side of the structure. The sandy soils were placed on the downstream side of the structure. Brown silt with a little fine to medium sand and numerous sandstone fragments (ML group soil-Unified Classification System) was noted as the typical soil on the downstream embankment during the field inspection. Most of the soil samples classified by D'Appolonia from test pits in the borrow area were ML group soils.

- 6.2.2 Stability: Stability analyses were conducted by D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers, Inc. using a computerized version of Bishop's Method of Slices. Analyses were conducted to address short term conditions occurring during construction (not applicable now) and long term conditions. Shear strength values of representative embankment and foundation materials used in the analyses were derived

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

from laboratory consolidated undrained triaxial shear tests, direct shear strength tests, and field investigations. The values for the long term analyses are as follows:

| <u>Generalized<br/>Soil<br/>Description</u>     | <u>Material</u> | <u>Angle of<br/>Internal<br/>Friction (<math>\phi</math>)</u> | <u>Cohesion<br/>(C(p.s.f.))</u> |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Clayey Silt Borrow<br>2% to 3% Above<br>Optimum | Embankment      | 28°   | 0                               |
| Clayey Silt Borrow<br>5% to 6% Above<br>Optimum | Embankment      | 26°   | 400                             |
| Boulders, Rock<br>Fragments, Some<br>Silty Sand | Foundation      | 34°   | 0                               |
| Clayey Silt, Some<br>Rock Fragments             | Foundation      | 25°   | 200                             |
| Soft Clayey Silt,<br>Some Rock Frag-<br>ments   | Foundation      | 24°   | 500                             |
| Clayey Sand, Some<br>Rock Fragments             | Foundation      | 30°   | 0                               |

Individual analyses were made for failures within the upstream and downstream embankments and failures through the foundation soils on the upstream and downstream sides. The configuration of the dam used in these analyses is the same as the as-built configuration. The phreatic surface was assumed to be controlled by the internal chimney drain and downstream lateral drains. Measurements taken in the piezometers that were not clogged during the field inspection generally show that the phreatic surface is lower than that assumed during the stability analyses and indicate that the drainage system is performing satisfactorily. The factor of safety calculated against the four failure cases described above are as follows:

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| <u>Type of Failure</u>   | <u>Factor of Safety Against Failure</u> |
|--|---|
| Downstream Embankment Failure From Crest to Bench                                  | 1.46                                    |
| Failure Through Foundation Affecting Entire Downstream Embankment and Crest of Dam | 1.72                                    |
| Upstream Embankment Failure Affecting Crest and Upper 3/4 of Embankment            | 2.16                                    |
| Failure Through Foundation Affecting Entire Upstream Embankment and Crest of Dam   | 2.71                                    |

The visual inspection of the structure revealed no signs of instability such as slumping, tension cracks, or unusual alignment along the crest. However, moderate erosion of the downstream embankment (primarily below the bench) has occurred and should be corrected to prevent additional damage that could affect the stability of the existing slopes. The as-built plans indicate that there should be two 8-inch C.M.P. outlets, one on each side of the principal spillway outlet, for the internal chimney drain and lateral drains within the downstream embankment. Neither of these pipes was observed during the visual inspection. A discharge (3-5 g.p.m.) was occurring from the approximate area of the left drain. No discharge was occurring from the approximate area of the right drain. The outlets may have been covered over by sediment eroded from the embankment above the drains. It is not clear from available information describing construction history whether the drains were constructed as designed. If the two outlets were constructed as designed, they should be uncovered and cleaned out to ensure proper operations.

6.2.3 Seismic Stability: The dam is located in Seismic Zone 2 which presents no hazard from earthquakes according to the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams by the Department of the Army, Office of the

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

Chief of Engineers. This determination is contingent on the requirements that static stability conditions are satisfactory and conventional safety margins exist.

- 6.3 Evaluation: The design of the dam is such that acceptable factors of safety against failure have been provided. The existing configuration of the embankment is the same as that assumed during stability analyses conducted during design. The visual inspection did not indicate any stability problems. Only minor maintenance is required to ensure structural integrity. Measurements taken in the existing piezometers that were not clogged revealed that the phreatic surface is adequately controlled by the internal drainage system. Adequate stability analyses, considering the present conditions of the dam, have been conducted.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## SECTION 7 - ASSESSMENT/REMEDIAL MEASURES

- 7.1 Dam Assessment: The engineering data provided were adequate to assess the design and construction of Unimin Tailings Dam. Hydraulic and hydrologic data provided were adequate for review. Adequate stability analyses were available for review during these investigations which indicated acceptable factors of safety against failure. Deficiencies discovered during the field inspection and office analyses will require remedial treatment. The dam and appurtenant structures are generally in good overall condition. Maintenance of the dam is not considered adequate.

Using the Corps of Engineers' screening criteria for initial review of spillway adequacy, the PMF was selected as the SDF for the "intermediate" size - "high" hazard classification of Unimin Tailings Dam. The spillways are capable of passing 100 percent of the PMF without overtopping the crest of the dam and are adjudged as adequate.

Some minor erosion has taken place below the benches on both the upstream and downstream embankments. The junction of the downstream embankment with both the left and right abutments below the bench showed moderate erosion. Some areas of the embankment and the emergency spillway are sparsely vegetated. The seepage control drain outlets have been covered by sediment. The principal spillway outlet extends unsupported over the plunge pool.

There is no warning system or emergency action plan currently in operation.

- 7.2 Recommended Remedial Measures: A formal warning system and emergency action plan should be developed and put into operation as soon as possible. The emergency action plan should list steps to be taken to help prevent failure of the dam in an emergency.

Regular, formal inspections should be made of the dam and appurtenant structures. A check list should be compiled for use by the owner's representative as a guide for the inspections. Maintenance items should be completed annually.

The following repair items should be accomplished as part of the general maintenance of the dam:

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

- 1) Repair all areas of erosion on the embankment, particularly the erosion rills on the downstream embankment below the bench.
- 2) Establish a grass cover over all the sparsely vegetated areas of the embankment.
- 3) Repair and riprap the eroded junctions of the left and right abutments with the downstream embankment.
- 4) Uncover the outlet pipes for the internal chimney and lateral seepage control drains.
- 5) Establish a grass cover over the sparsely vegetated areas of the emergency spillway.
- 6) Install a staff gage to monitor reservoir levels above normal pool.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

APPENDIX I

PLATES

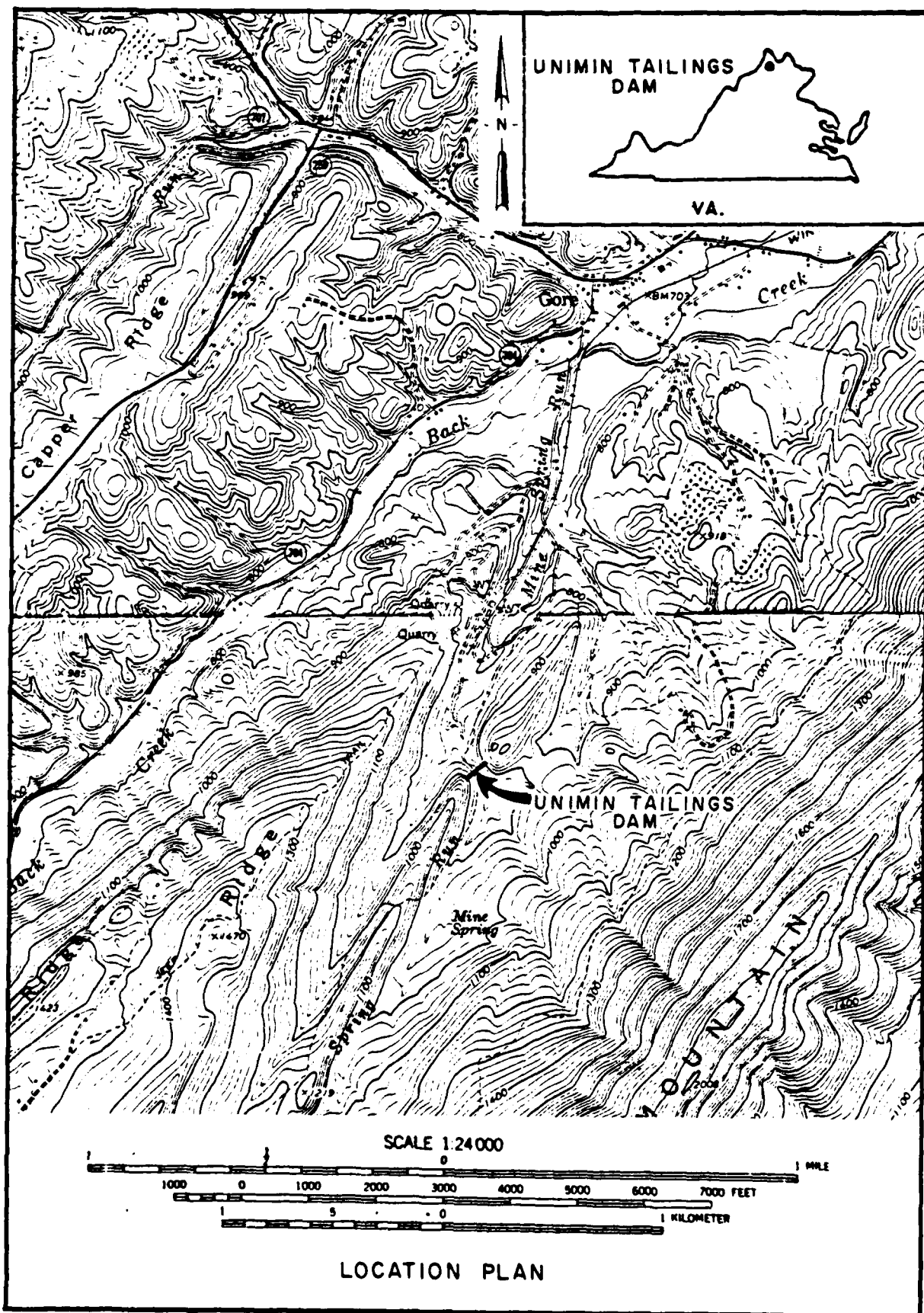
## CONTENTS

### Location Plan

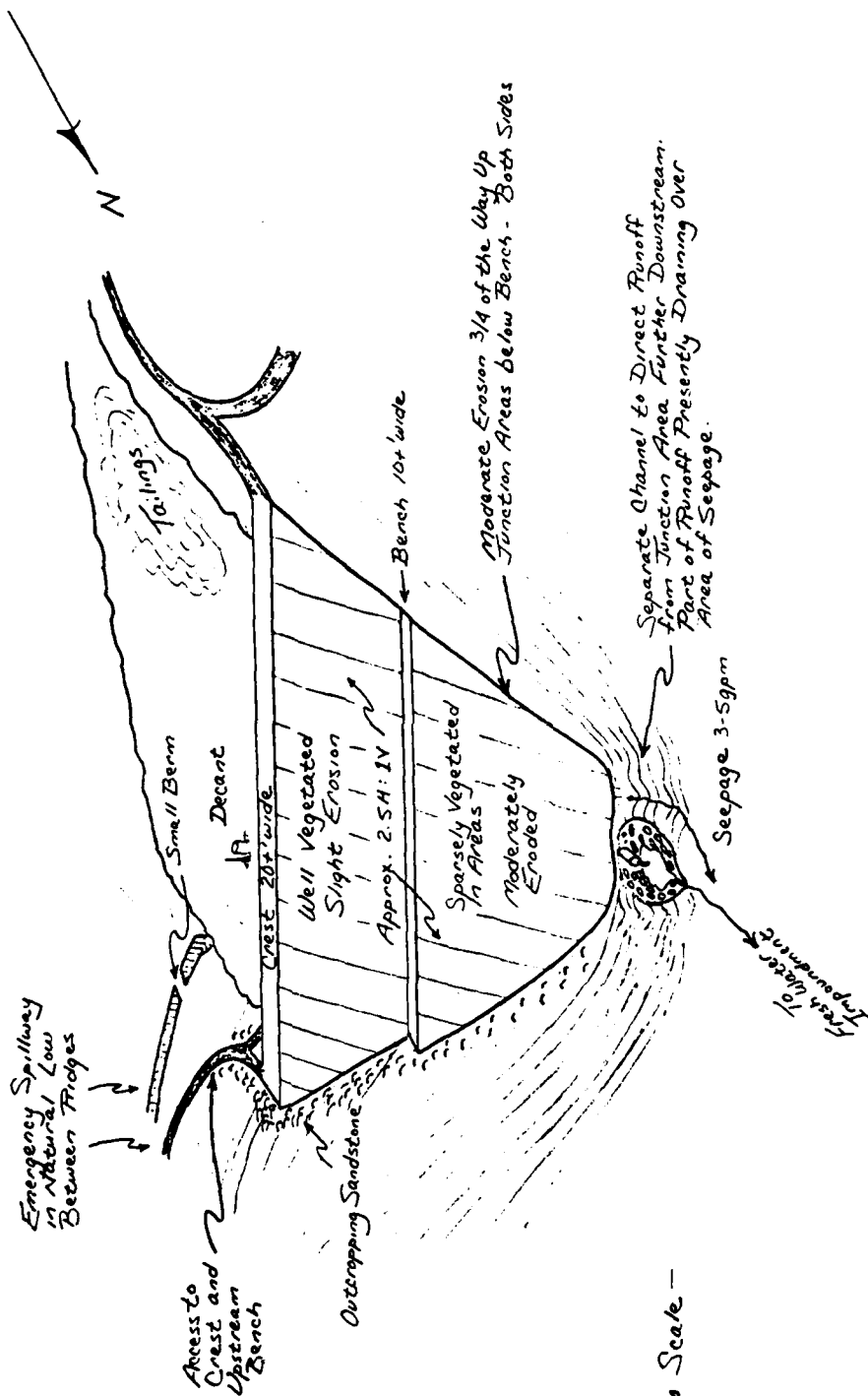
- Plate 1: Field Sketch
- Plate 2: General Plan
- Plate 3: Typical Section Through Dam
- Plate 4: Plan and Profile Decant System
- Plate 5: Details
- Plate 6: Plan and Location of Borings Test  
Pits and Auger Borings
- Plate 7: Subsurface Investigation Section C-C and D-D
- Plate 8: Test Pit Logs T-12 Through T-16
- Plate 9: Slope Stability Analysis
- Plate 10: Laboratory Data Triaxial and Direct Shear  
Strength Tests
- Plate 11: Hydrology and Hydraulic Data
- Plate 12: Top of Dam and Spillway Profile
- Plate 13: Typical Dam Cross Section

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM





Upper Embankment Slope  
Approx. 2.5H:1V



-Not to Scale-

## FIELD SKETCH

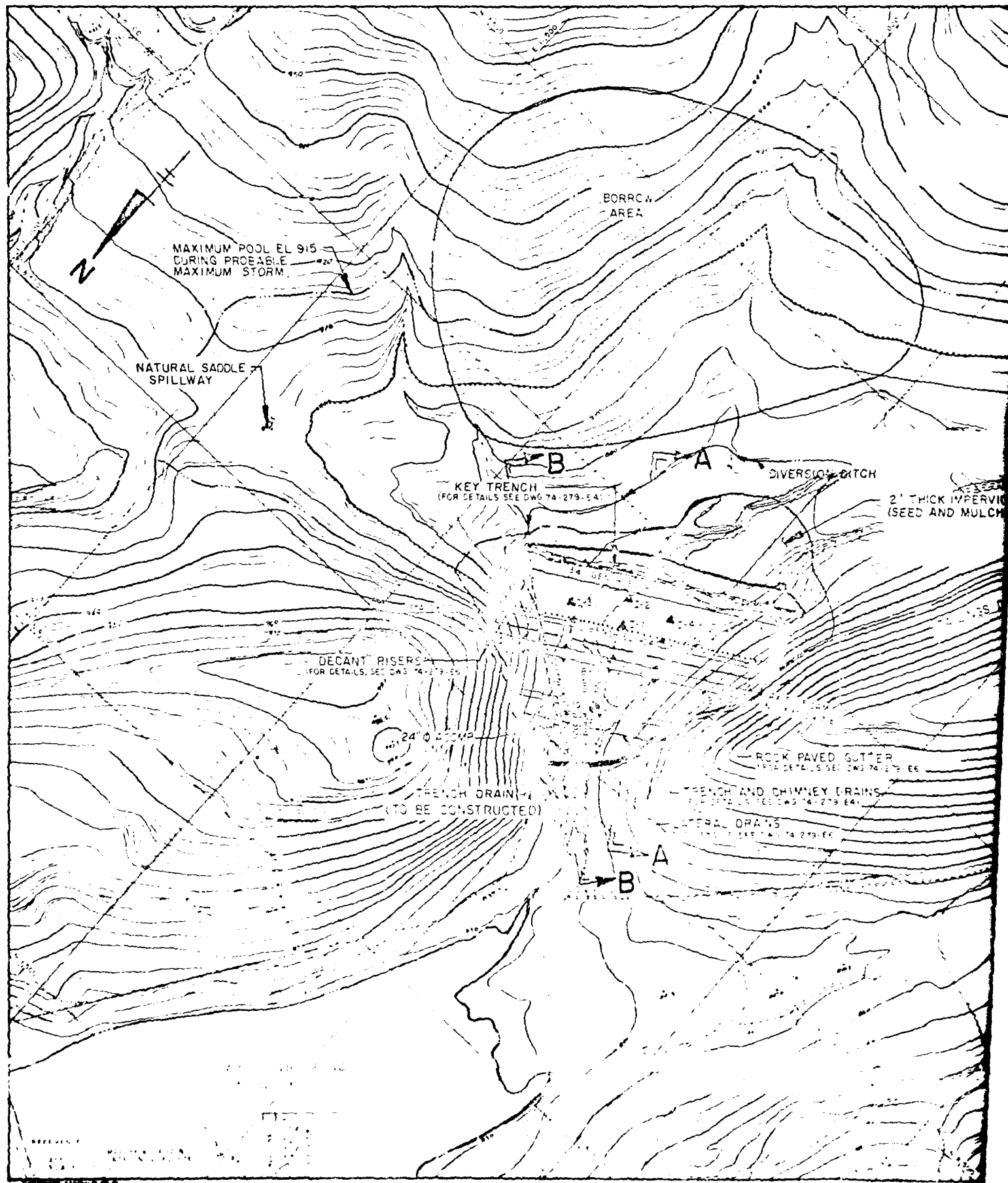
UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM, VIRGINIA

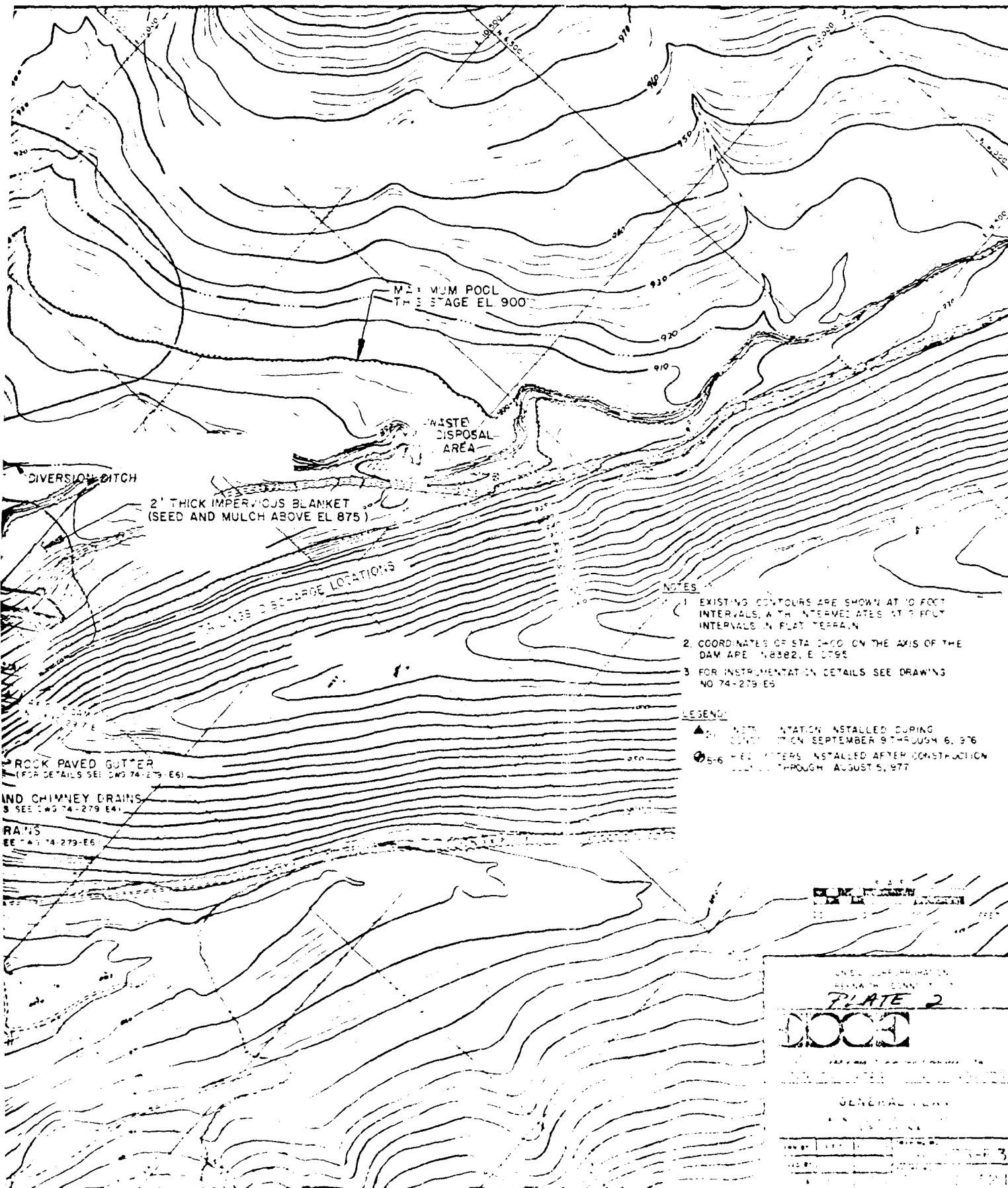
Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.

30 October 1980

PLATE 1

DWH 10-80





#### NOTES

1. EXISTING CONTOURS ARE SHOWN AT 10 FOOT INTERVALS, WITH INTERVALS AT 5 FOOT INTERVALS IN FLAT TERRAIN.
2. COORDINATES OF STA 0+00 ON THE AXIS OF THE DAM ARE N 8382, E 0795.
3. FOR INSTRUMENTATION DETAILS SEE DRAWING NO 74-279-E5.

#### LEGEND

- ▲ INSTRUMENTATION INSTALLED DURING CONSTRUCTION SEPTEMBER 9 THROUGH 6, 1976
- S-6 FIELD METERS INSTALLED AFTER CONSTRUCTION JULY 1 THROUGH AUGUST 5, 1977

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
**PLATE 2**  
**DOCE**

GENERAL PLAN

NO. 74-279-E6

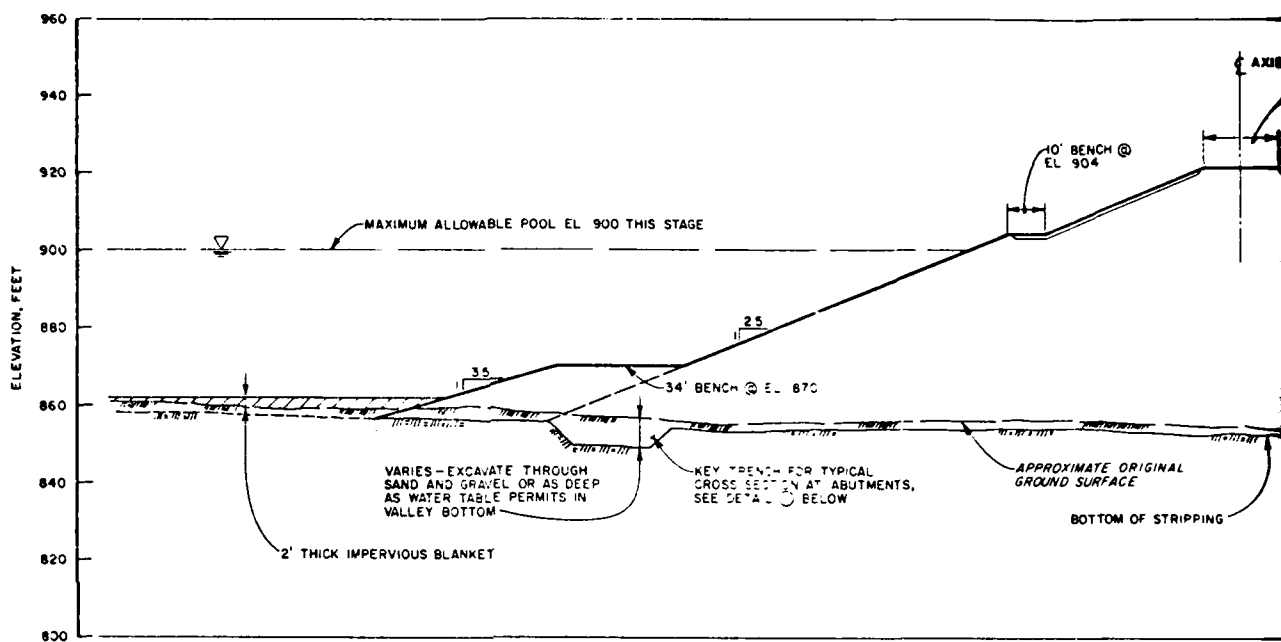
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BY: [Signature]

FOR: [Signature]

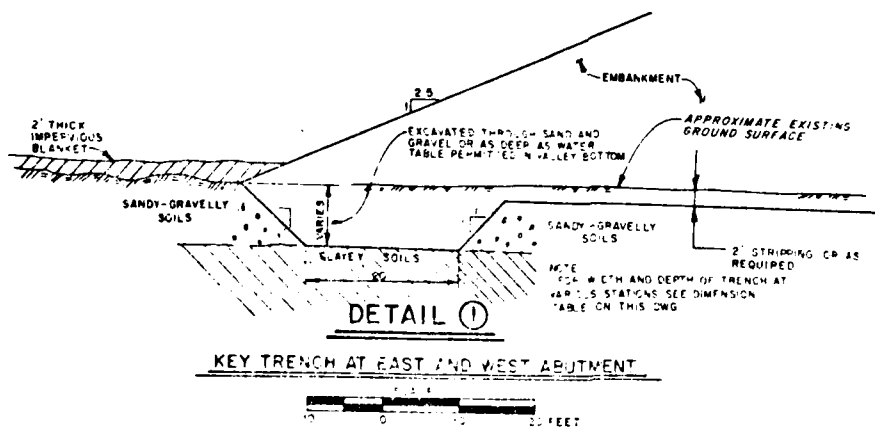
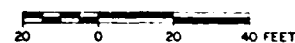
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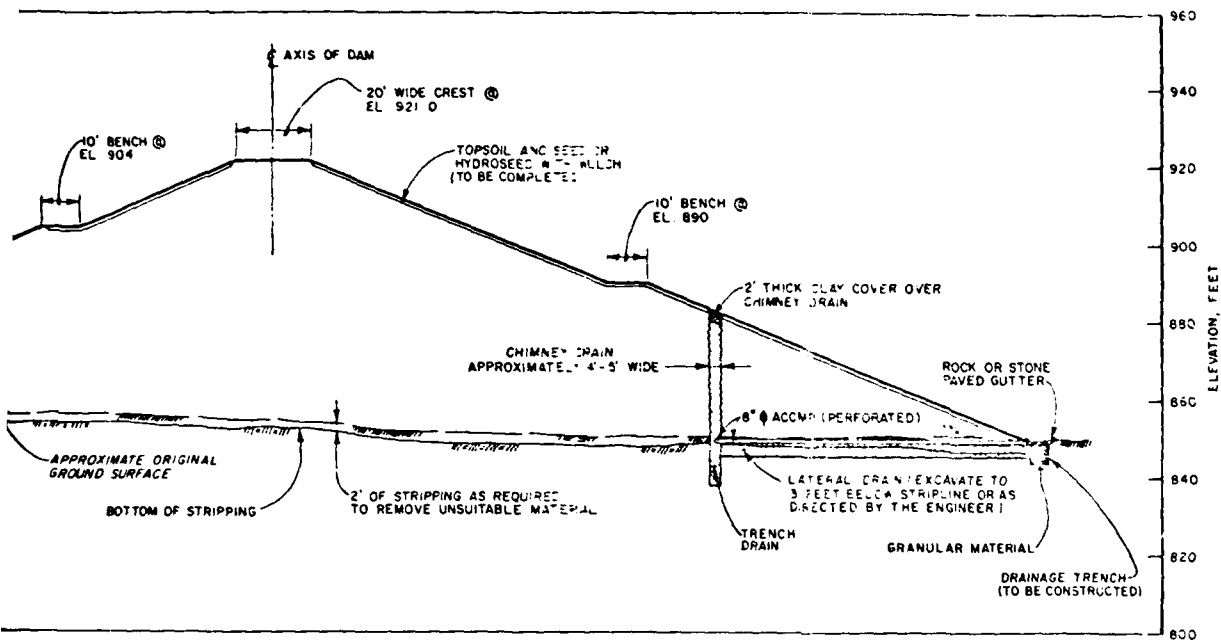
## SECTION A-A TYPICAL SECTION THRU

(LOOKING WEST)



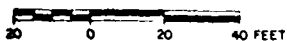
### KEY TRENCH DIMENSIONS

| DAM STATION | BOTTOM WIDTH (FT) | TOP WIDTH (FT) | DEPTH (FT) |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| 0+60        | 18.0              | 22             |            |
| 0+72        | 17.5              | 19.5           |            |
| 0+87        | 19.5              | 23.0           |            |
| 1+05        | 19.0              | 22.0           |            |
| 1+30        | 19.0              | 22.0           |            |
| 1+55        | 20.0              | 22.0           |            |
| 1+71        | 19.5              | 23.0           |            |
| 1+96        | 19.5              | 25.0           |            |
| 3+25        | 20.0              | 28.5           |            |
| 3+50        | 21.0              | 29.5           |            |
| 4+00        | 21.5              | 32.8           |            |
| 4+05        | 21.5              | 32.8           |            |
| 3+85        | 22.0              | 31.0           |            |
| 4+21        | 22.5              | 31.0           |            |
| 4+50        | 22.0              | 33.0           |            |



## SECTION A-A SECTION THRU DAM

(LOOKING WEST)



KEY TRENCH DIMENSIONS

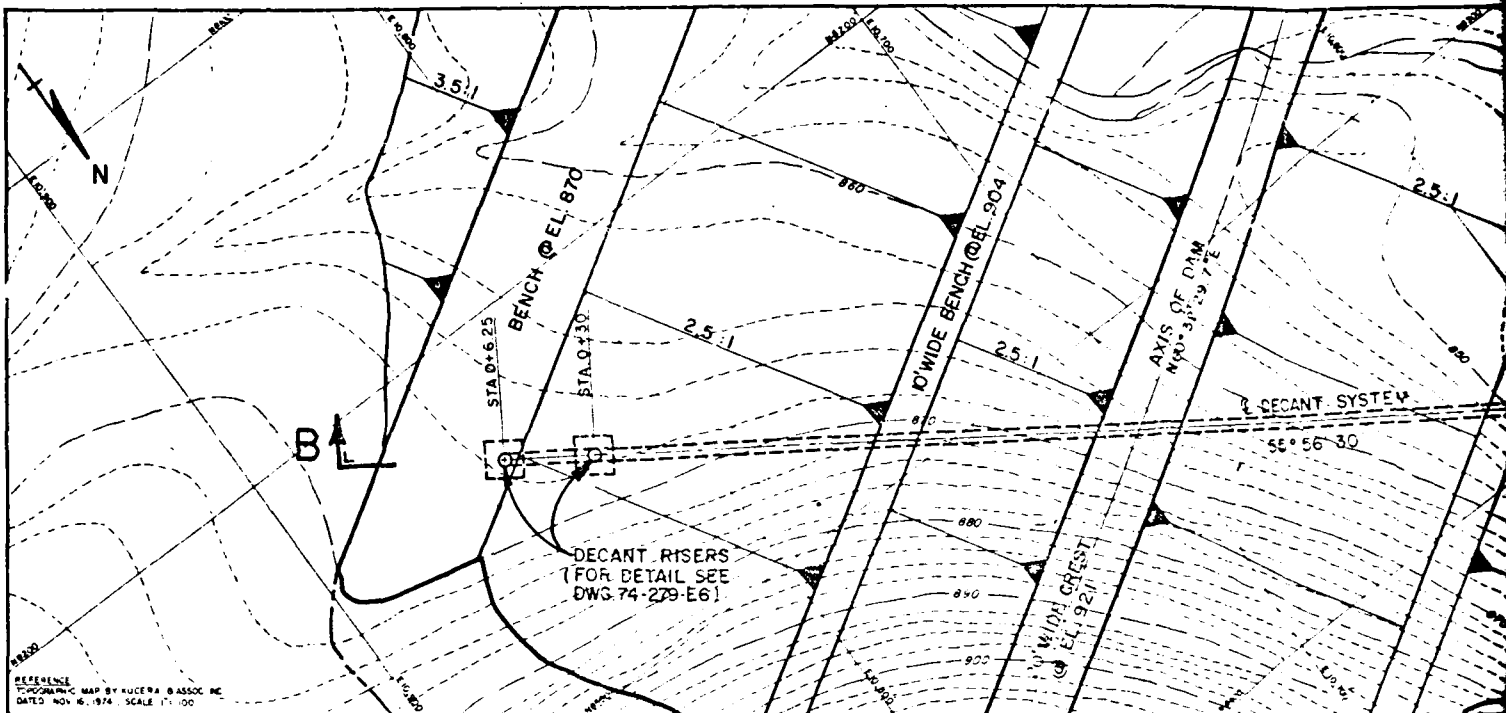
| WM STATION | BOTTOM WIDTH (FT) | TOP WIDTH (FT) | DEPTH OF EXCAVATION (FT) |
|------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 0+60       | 18.0              | 22.0           | 6.5                      |
| 0+72       | 17.5              | 19.3           | 6.9                      |
| 0+87       | 19.5              | 23.0           | 7.7                      |
| 1+05       | 19.0              | 22.0           | 7.6                      |
| 1+30       | 19.0              | 20.0           | 6.7                      |
| 1+55       | 20.0              | 22.0           | 5.0                      |
| 1+71       | 19.5              | 23.0           | 8.5                      |
| 1+96       | 19.5              | 25.0           | 9.9                      |
| 3+25       | 20.0              | 28.5           | 1.0                      |
| 3+55       | 21.0              | 23.5           | 11.3                     |
| 4+00       | 21.5              | 32.8           | 2.0                      |
| 4+05       | 21.5              | 32.8           | 3.0                      |
| 3+85       | 22.0              | 31.0           | 3.0                      |
| 4+21       | 22.5              | 31.0           | 12.0                     |
| 4+50       | 22.0              | 33.0           | 12.0                     |

### NOTE:

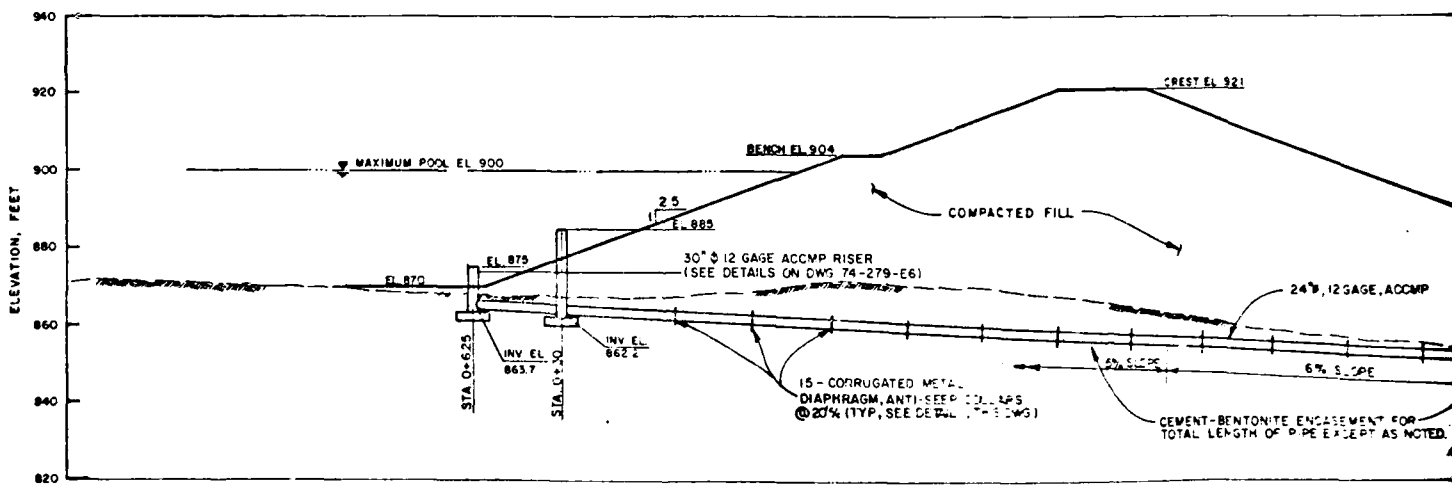
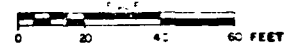
FOR LOCATION OF SECTION, SEE DWG 74-279-E3

PLATE 3

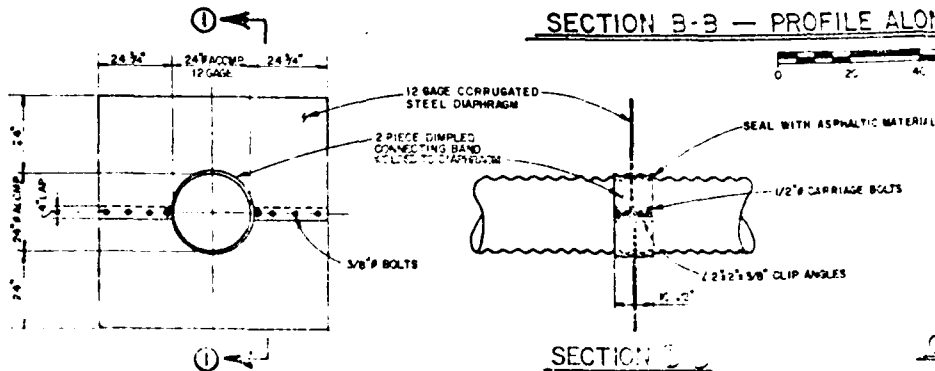
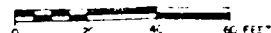
|  |         |
|--|---------|
| UNISIL CORPORATION<br>GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT |         |
| <b>UNISIL</b>                                |         |
| TAILINGS DISPOSAL, DAM AND EROSION CONTROL   |         |
| DRAWN BY                                     | 10/1/74 |
| CHECKED BY                                   | 10/1/74 |



PLAN - DECANT SYSTEM

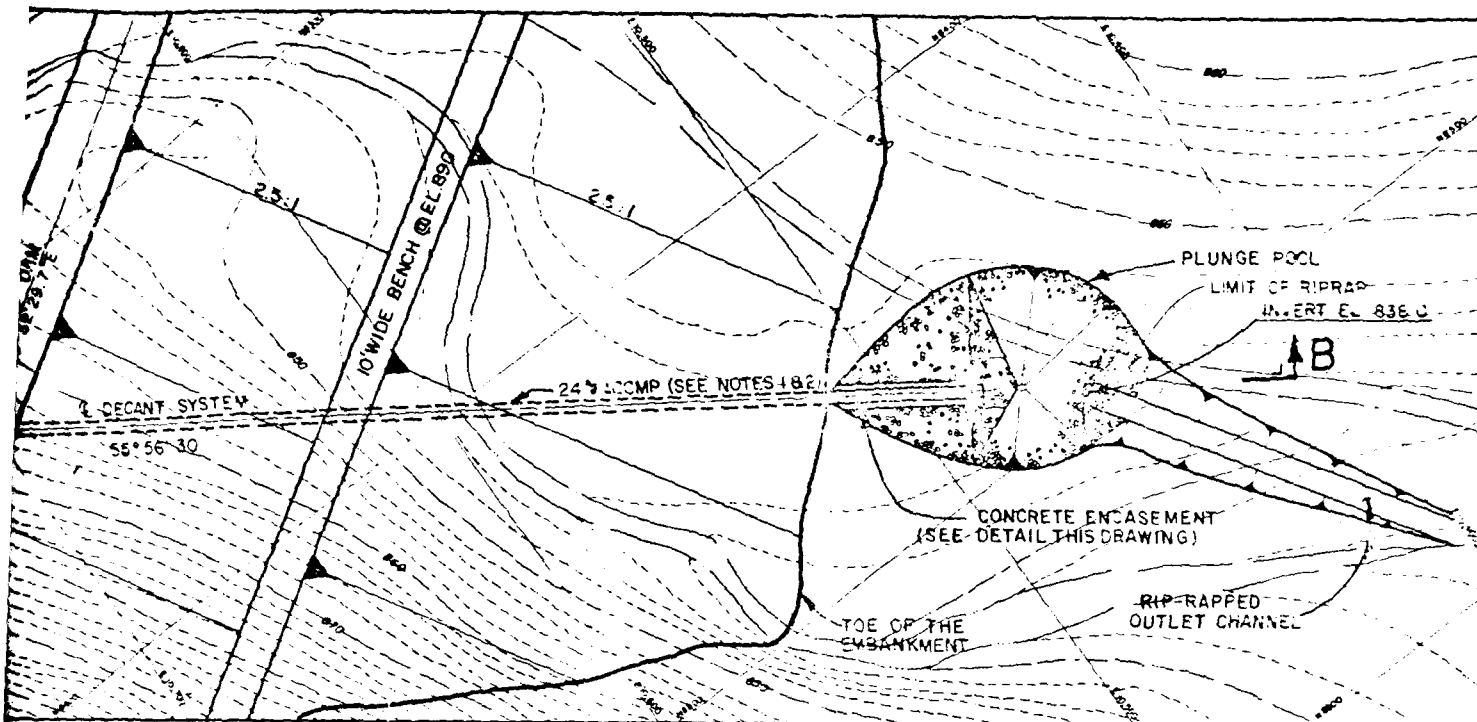


SECTION B-B - PROFILE ALONG Q DECANT SY

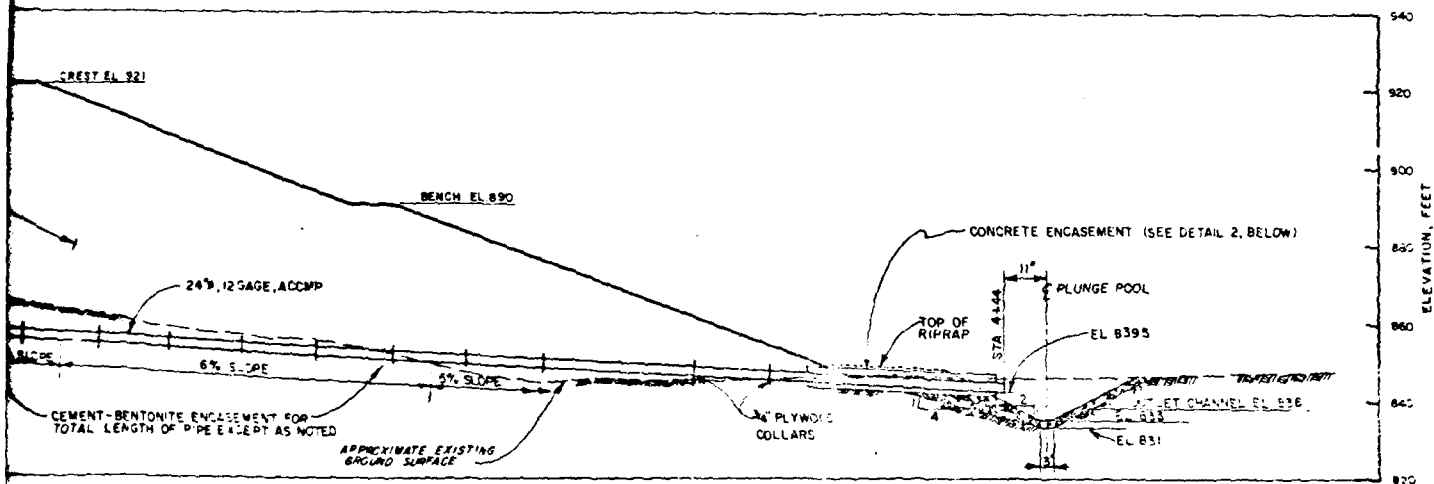
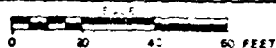


DETAIL 1 ANTI-SEEP COLLAR DIAPHRAGM

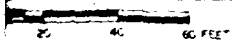
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CONCRETE ENCLOSURE  
15\"/>



PLAN - DECANT SYSTEM



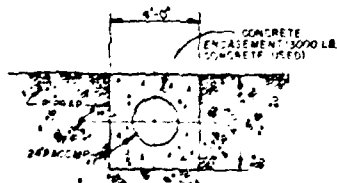
FILE ALONG  $\odot$  DECANT SYSTEM



ASPHALTIC MATERIAL

BARRIAGE BOLTS

WELDS



DETAIL 2

CONCRETE ENCASUREMENT AT OUTLET

(FOR CEMENT-BENTONITE ENCASUREMENT OF PIPE, SEE DETAIL IN DRAWING 74-279-EG)

#### NOTES

1. 24"  $\odot$  ACCOMP IS CASE HEAVY FOR WELDED SEAMS AS MANUFACTURED BY ARMCO STEEL CO.
2. PIPES ARE CONNECTED WITH 12" WIDE BANDS WITH RUBBER RING GASKETS.
3. RISER AT EL 875 WILL BE PLUGGED WITH CONCRETE WHEN TAILINGS LEVEL REACHES EL 875 (NOT IN THIS CONTRACT).
4. DECANTER PIPES SHALL BE PLUGGED WITH CONCRETE WHEN TAILINGS LEVEL REACHES EL 875 (NOT IN THIS CONTRACT). THIS CONTRACT FOR DECANT SHALL NOT BE USED FOR PIPE LEVELS GREATER THAN EL 875 OR FOR DAM LEVELS GREATER THAN EL 821.

#### PLATE 4

UNISIL CORPORATION  
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

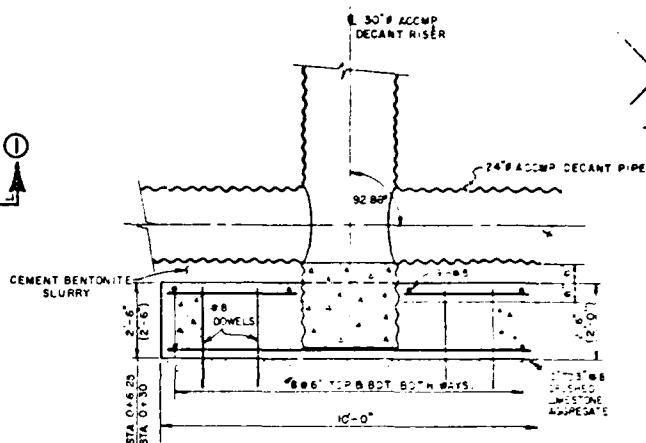
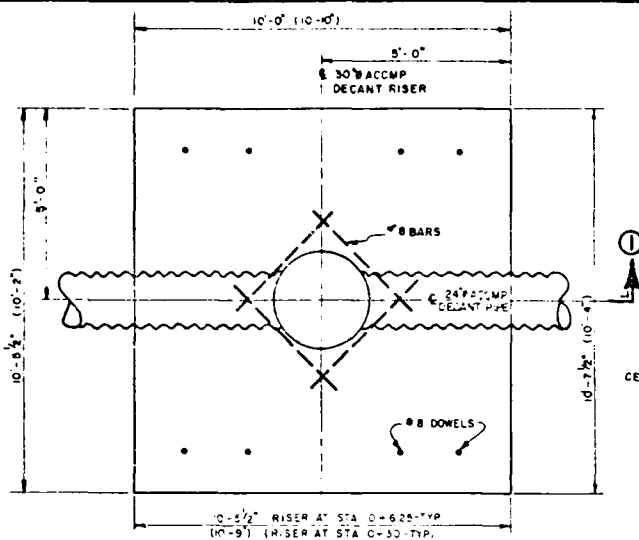


PLAN AND PROFILE DECANT SYSTEM

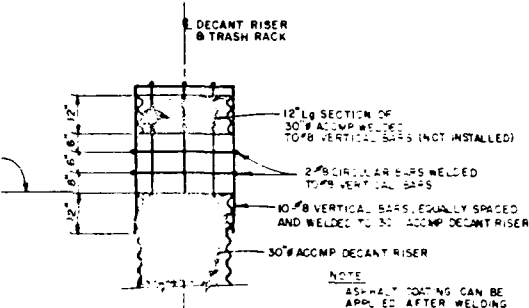
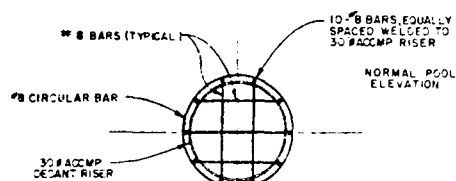
TAILINGS DISPOSAL DAM AND FACILITIES

|             |         |           |
|-------------|---------|-----------|
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| CHECKED BY  | UNISIL  |           |
| DATE        | 10/1/64 |           |

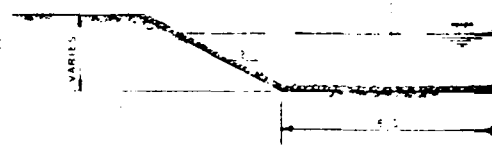
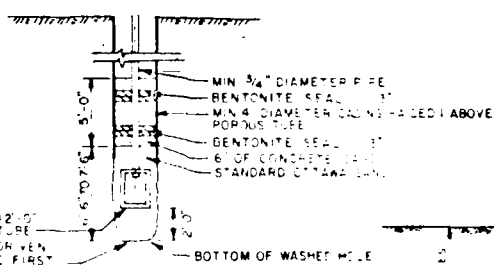
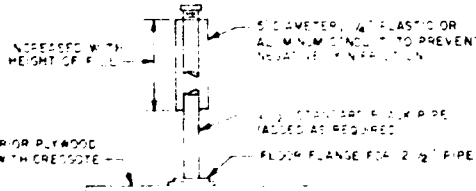
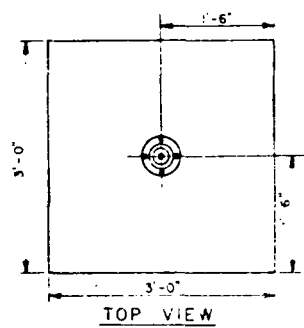




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|---------|--|
| DECA    |  |
| STATION |  |
| • 8     |  |
| 2 + 00  |  |
| 2 + 20  |  |
| 2 + 40  |  |
| 2 + 60  |  |

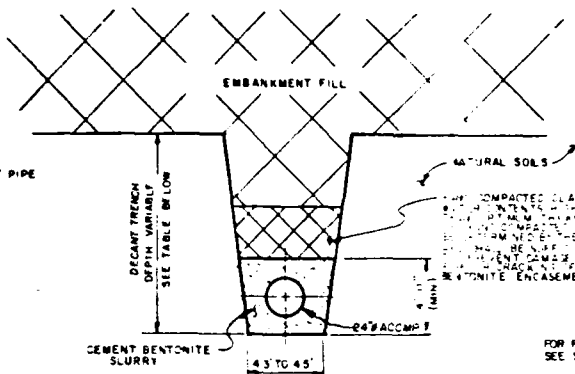


PLAN ELEVATION



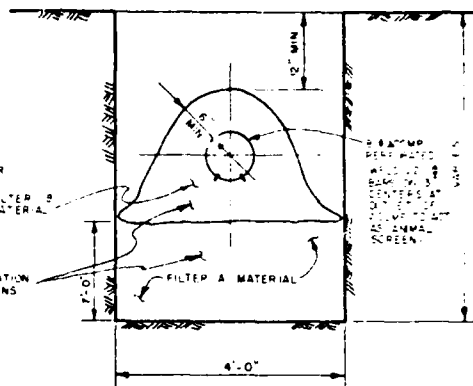
SECTION 2-2  
OUTLET CHANNEL

## INSTRUMENTATION DETAILS

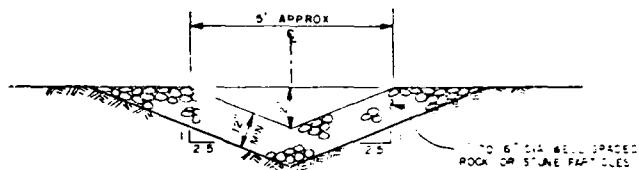


**DETAIL - CONDUIT ENCASEMENT**  
SCALE 1" = 4'-0"

| STATION | DEPTH | STATION | DEPTH |
|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| 1+80    | 1.3   | 2+80    | 1.3   |
| 2+00    | 1.4   | 3+00    | 1.4   |
| 2+20    | 8.3   | 3+20    | 1.4   |
| 2+40    | 9.2   | 3+40    | 1.4   |
| 2+60    | 9.0   |         |       |



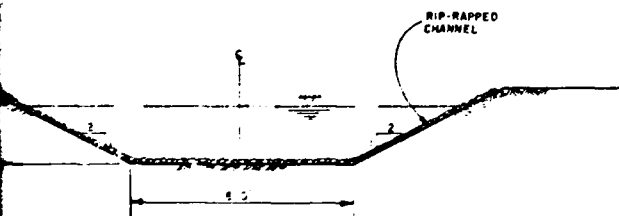
**TYPICAL DETAIL  
GRANULAR TRENCH DRAIN  
AND LATERAL DRAIN**  
SCALE 1" = 1'-0"



**ROCK PAVED GUTTER**  
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

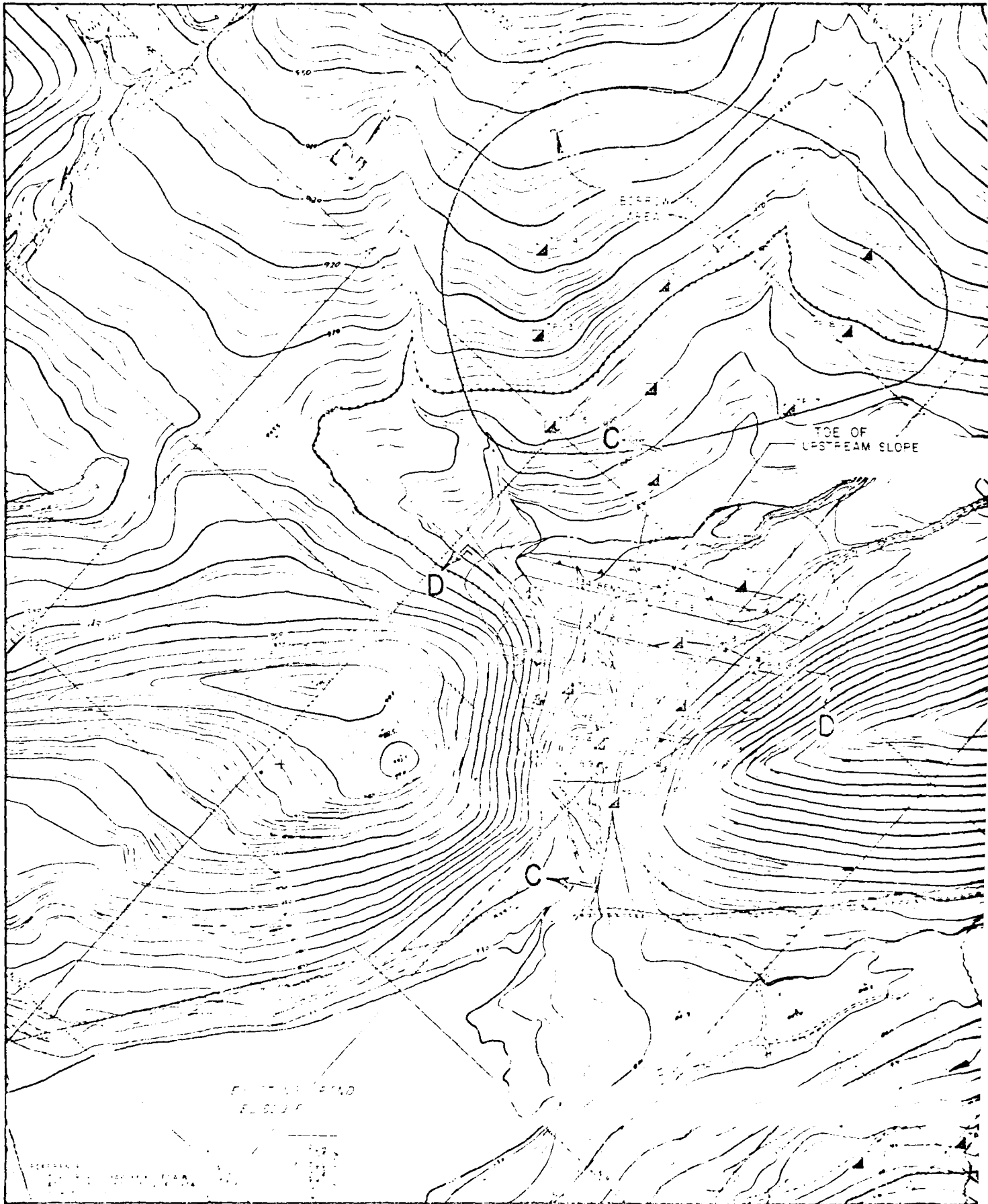
**NOTES:**

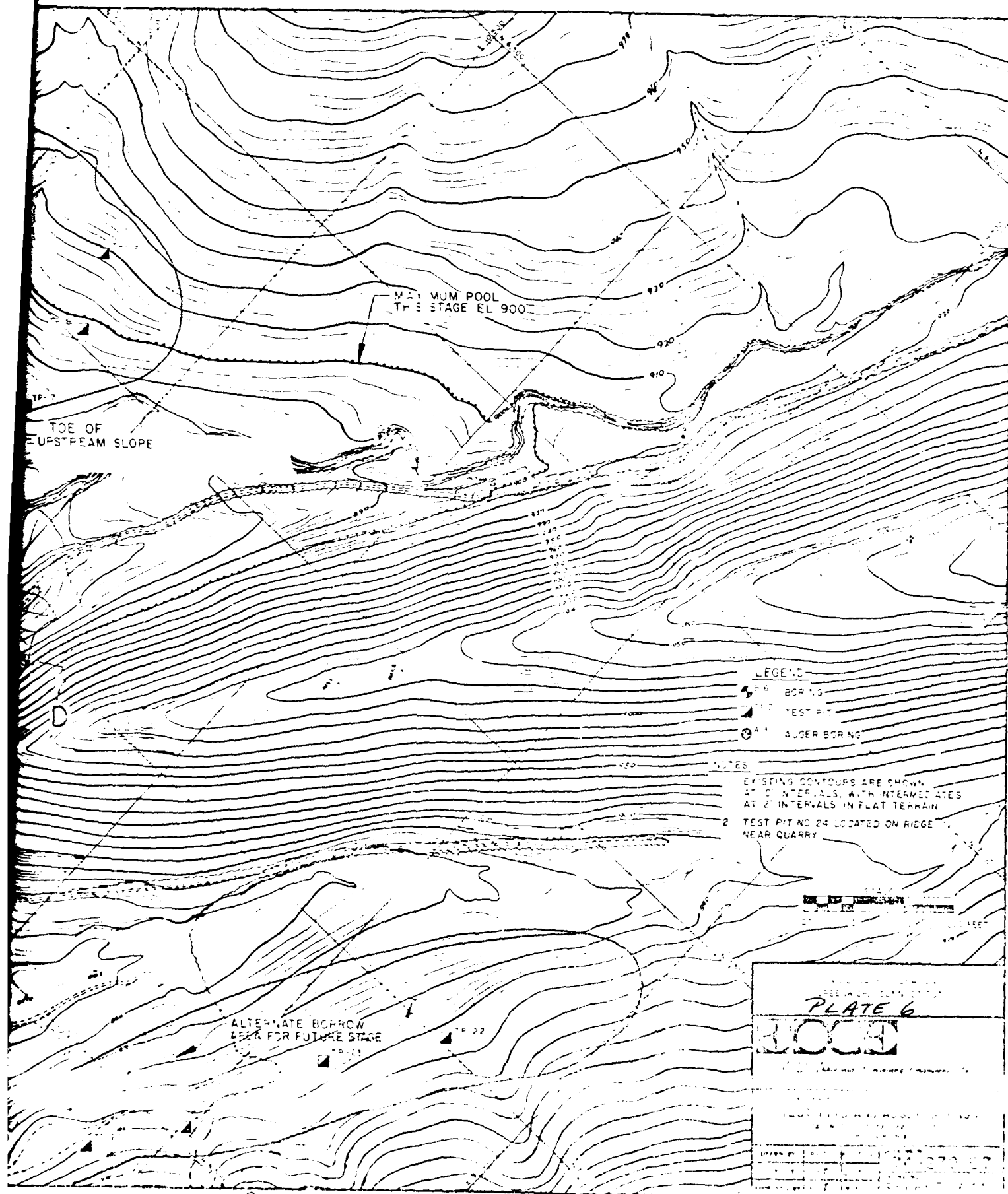
1. CONCRETE SHALL HAVE A COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF 4000 PSI AT THE END OF 28 DAYS.
2. REINFORCING STEEL SHALL BE OF GRADE 40 AND CONFORM TO ASTM A615.
3. REINFORCING STEEL SHALL BE DETAILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE (ACI 318-71).

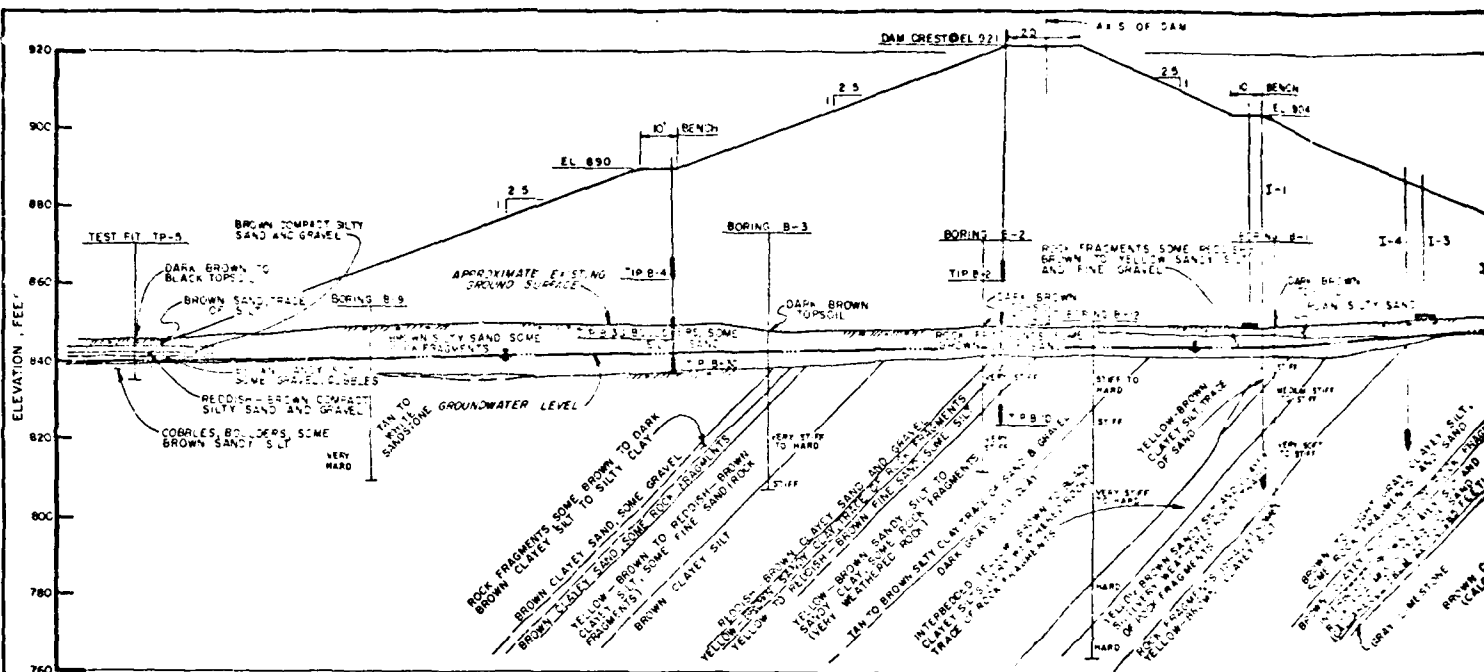


**SECTION 2-2  
OUTLET CHANNEL**  
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

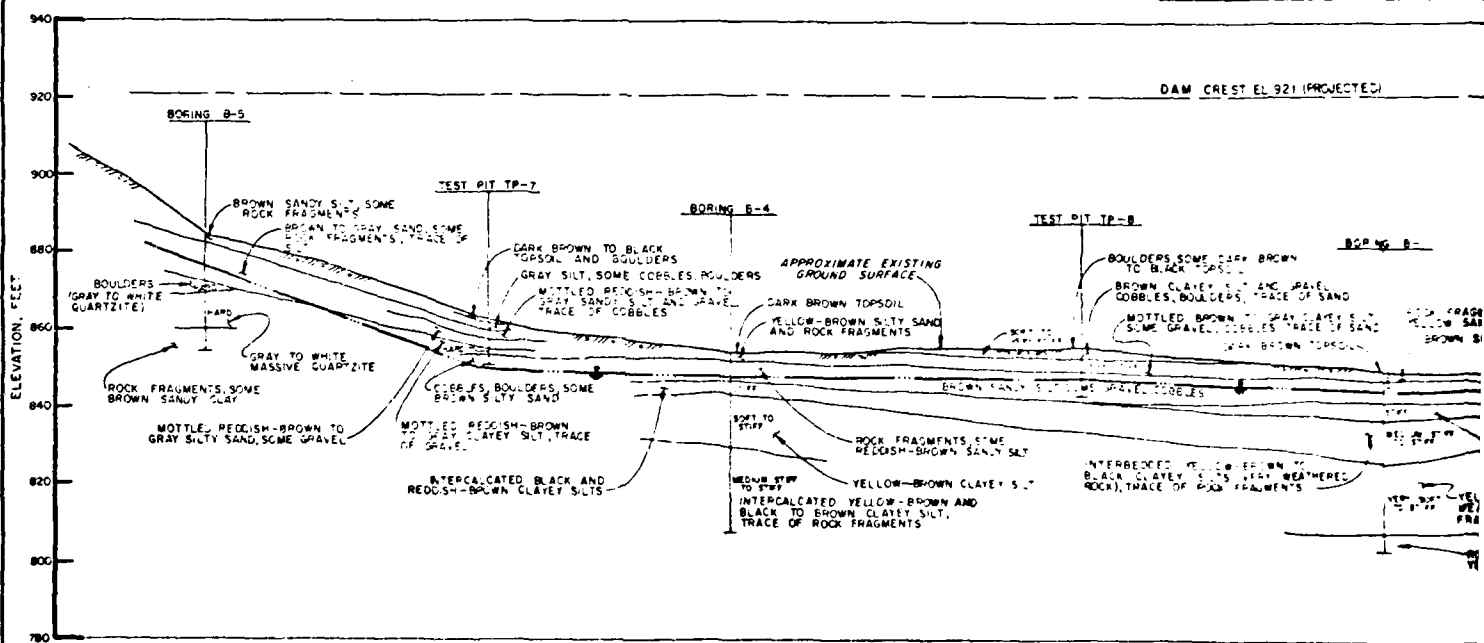
|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| CITY OF GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT       |               |
| <b>BOOK</b>                          |               |
| CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE               |               |
| TITLE: TAILINGS DRYAL DAM FINAL PLAN |               |
| DESIGNED BY: [Signature]             | 74-279-E6     |
| CHECKED BY: [Signature]              | SHEET 5 OF 21 |
| APPROVED BY: [Signature]             |               |







SECTION C-C



SECTION D-D

THE BORING LOGS AND RELATED INFORMATION  
 CAPACITY, SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS ONLY AT  
 THE SPECIFIC LOCATION AND DEPTHS INDICATED  
 SOIL, SAND, AND WATER LEVELS AT  
 OTHER LOCATIONS MAY DIFFER FROM CONDITIONS  
 OCCURRING AT THESE BORING LOCATIONS ALSO  
 THE PASSAGE OF TIME MAY RESULT IN A  
 CHANGE IN THE CONDITIONS AT THESE  
 BORING LOCATIONS

AND INTERPOLATED BETWEEN THE TEST BORINGS  
 INFORMATION ON ACTUAL SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS  
 EXISTS ONLY AT THE LOCATION OF THE TEST BORINGS  
 AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS  
 BETWEEN THE TEST BORINGS MAY VARY FROM THOSE  
 INDICATED

REVISIONS  
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 100. REVISION



| DATE BEGAN    |               | TEST PT NO  |               |
|---------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| DATE FINISHED |               | GROUND SURFACE E  |               |
| ELEV<br>FEET  | DEPTH<br>FEET | DESCRIPTION   | REMARKS       |
| 911           | 0             | DARK BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES  |               |
| 898.75        | 4.0           | STIFF TO HARD BROWN CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES                                       | MC-22.52      |
|               | 5             | VERY STIFF REDDISH-BROWN CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES                                  |               |
|               | 7.0           |   | MC-26.92      |
|               | 10            | VERY STIFF TO HARD MOTTLED REDDISH-BROWN TO GRAY TO BLACK CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES | SLIGHT CAVING |
| 899.0         | 12.0          |   | MC-28.42      |

BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'  
LIMIT OF BACKFILL

| DATE BEGAN    |               | TEST PT NO  |         |
|---------------|---------------|---|---------|
| DATE FINISHED |               | GROUND SURFACE E  |         |
| ELEV<br>FEET  | DEPTH<br>FEET | DESCRIPTION   | REMARKS |
| 890           | 0             | GRAY BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES  |         |
|               | 2.5           | BROWN CLAYEY SILT AND GRAVEL, COBBLES   |         |
|               | 3.0           |   |         |
|               | 5             | VERY STIFF REDDISH-BROWN TO BROWN CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES                           |         |
|               | 10            |   |         |
|               | 12.0          |   |         |
| 890.2         | 12.0          | VERY STIFF TO HARD BROWN CLAYEY SILT, MOTTLED GRAY TO BLACK CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES |         |

BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'  
LIMIT OF BACKFILL

| DATE BEGAN    |               | TEST PT NO  |           |
|---------------|---------------|---|-----------|
| DATE FINISHED |               | GROUND SURFACE E  |           |
| ELEV<br>FEET  | DEPTH<br>FEET | DESCRIPTION   | REMARKS   |
|               | 0             | DARK BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES, GRAVEL                                  |           |
|               | 5             | GRAVEL, COBBLES, SOME BROWN CLAYEY SILT   |           |
| 910           | 6.0           |   | MC-18.72  |
|               | 10            | VERY STIFF TO HARD MOTTLED BROWN TO GRAY TO BLACK CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES | NO CAVING |
|               | 12.0          |   | MC-27.42  |
| 904.2         | 12.0          |   | MC-27.02  |

BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'  
LIMIT OF BACKFILL

| DATE BEGAN    |               | TEST PT NO                                     |         |
|---------------|---------------|--|---------|
| DATE FINISHED |               | GROUND SURFACE E                               |         |
| ELEV<br>FEET  | DEPTH<br>FEET | DESCRIPTION                                    | REMARKS |
| 860           | 0             | GRAY BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES |         |
|               | 2.5           | GRAY BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES |         |
|               | 5             | GRAVEL, COBBLES, SOME BROWN CLAYEY SILT        |         |
|               | 10            |  |         |
| 852.3         | 12.0          |  |         |

BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'  
LIMIT OF BACKFILL

| DATE BEGAN    |               | TEST PT NO   |         |
|---------------|---------------|--|---------|
| DATE FINISHED |               | GROUND SURFACE E   |         |
| ELEV<br>FEET  | DEPTH<br>FEET | DESCRIPTION  | REMARKS |
| 890           | 0             | GRAY BROWN TO BLACK MOTTLED SILT, SOME COBBLES                 |         |
|               | 5             | VERY STIFF TO HARD BROWN CLAYEY SILT, TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES |         |
|               | 10            |  |         |
|               | 12.0          |  |         |

BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'  
LIMIT OF BACKFILL

| TEST PIT NO. 12  |   |
|--|---|
| GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION 10.00   |   |
| DESCRIPTION  | REMARKS   |
| DAKE BROWN TO BLACK TOPSOIL,<br>TRACE OF COBBLES, GRAVEL 0.5'                                      |   |
| BROWN CLAYEY SILT AND GRAVEL,<br>COBBLES 3.0'  |   |
| VERY STIFF REDDISH-BROWN<br>TO BROWN CLAYEY SILT,<br>TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES 10.0'                | MC-28.62<br>NO SEEPAGE AFTER 30<br>MINUTES<br>Bag Sample<br>MC-39.92<br>P.L. - 39.4 L.L. - 1.0<br>NO CAVING |
| VERY STIFF TO HARD BROWN<br>CLAYEY SILT (VERY WEATHERED SHALES),<br>TRACE OF GRAVEL, COBBLES 12.0' | MC-38.12  |
| BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 12.0'   |   |
| LIMIT OF BACKFILL  |   |

#### NOTES


1. FOR PLAN AND LOCATION OF TEST PITS, SEE  
DWG 74-279-E7
2. FOR GENERAL NOTES AND LEGENDS, SEE DWG 74-279-E13

3. THE TEST PIT LOGS AND RELATED INFORMATION  
DEPICT SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS ONLY AT  
THE SPECIFIC LOCATIONS AND DATES INDICATED.  
SOIL CONDITIONS AND WATER LEVELS AT  
OTHER LOCATIONS MAY DIFFER FROM CONDITIONS  
OCCURRING AT THESE TEST PIT LOCATIONS ALSO.  
THE PASSAGE OF TIME MAY RESULT IN A  
CHANGE IN THE CONDITIONS AT THESE TEST  
PIT LOCATIONS.

4. SUBSURFACE INFORMATION SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING  
WAS OBTAINED SOLELY FOR USE IN ESTABLISHING  
DESIGN CONTROLS FOR THE PROJECT. THE ACCURACY  
OF THIS INFORMATION IS NOT GUARANTEED AND IT  
IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS PART OF THE PLANS  
GOVERNING CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT.

| TEST PIT NO. 13  |   |
|--|---|
| GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION 10.00   |   |
| DESCRIPTION  | REMARKS   |
| GRAVEL, COBBLES, 1' DEEP, SOME<br>DAKE BROWN TO BLACK TOPSOIL 0.5'           |   |
| GRAVEL, COBBLES, 1' DEEP, SOME<br>BROWN CLAYEY SILT 2.5'                     |   |
| GRAVEL, COBBLES, BUTTERS,<br>SOME MOTTLED BROWN TO<br>GRAY CLAYEY SILT 11.0' | SLIGHT CAVING<br>SEEPAGE @ 6" AFTER<br>30 MINUTES |
| BOTTOM OF TEST PIT - 11.0'   |   |
| LIMIT OF BACKFILL  |   |

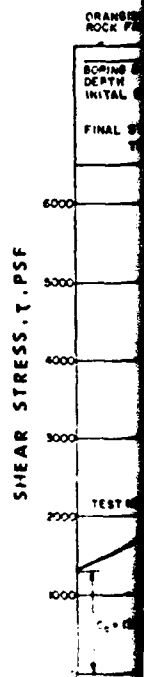
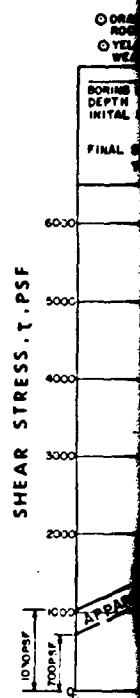
PLATE 8

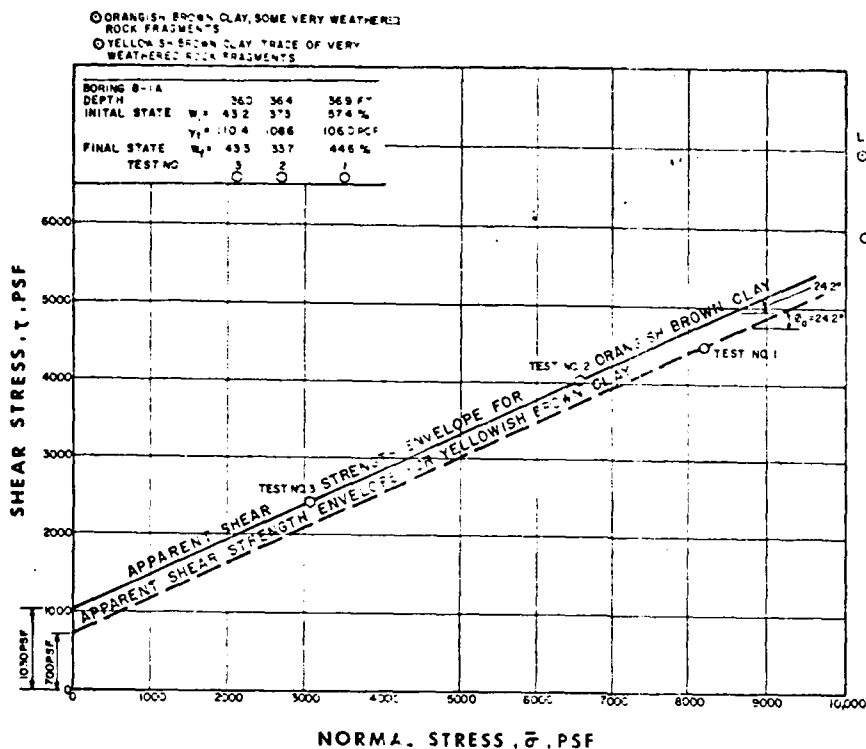
|   |      |              |            |
|---|------|--------------|------------|
| UNISIL CORPORATION<br>GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT  |      |              |            |
|  |      |              |            |
| TEST PIT LOGS T-12 THROUGH T-16<br>TAILINGS DISPOSAL DAM AND FACILITIES               |      |              |            |
| DRAWN BY  | DATE | PROJECT NO.  | 74-279-E 6 |
| CHECKED BY  | DATE | SHEET 1 OF 1 |            |

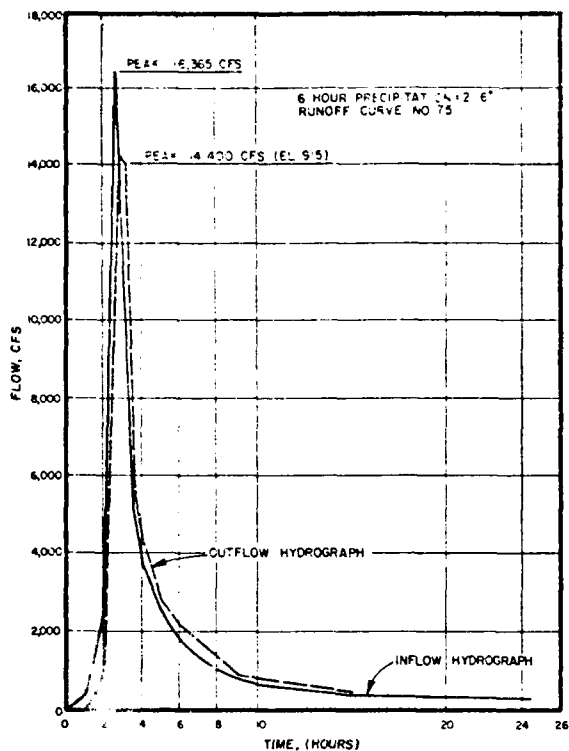




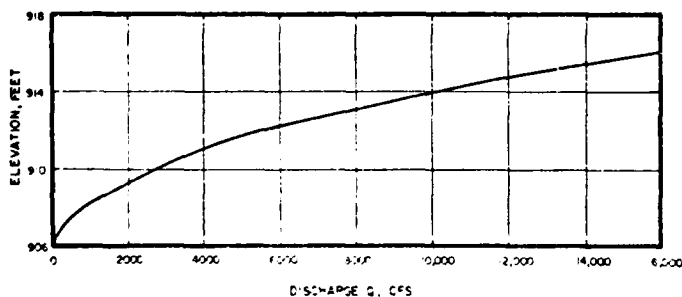




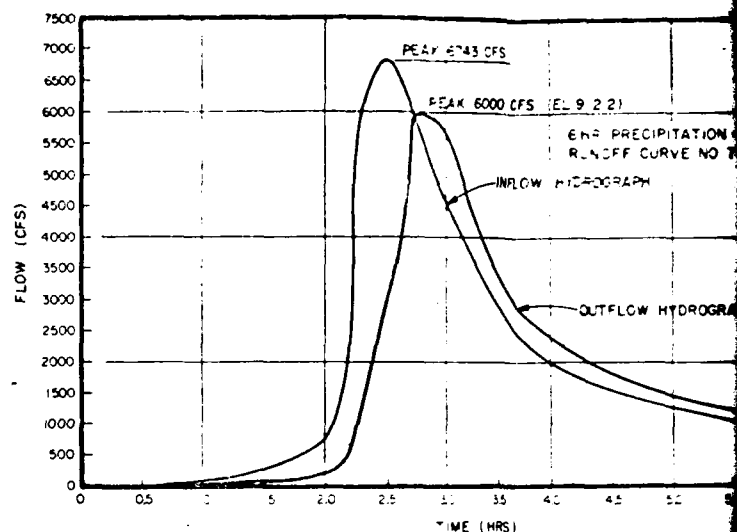




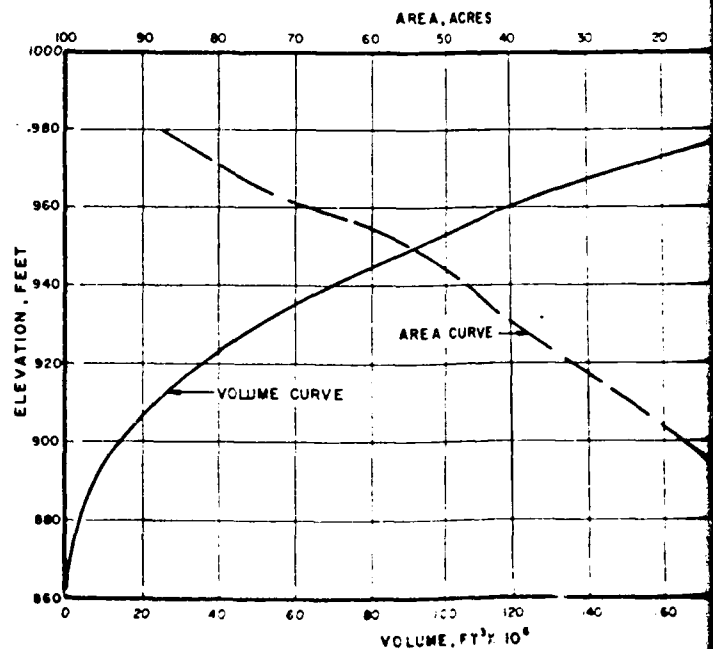
PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION STORM  
INFLOW - OUTFLOW HYDROGRAPHS



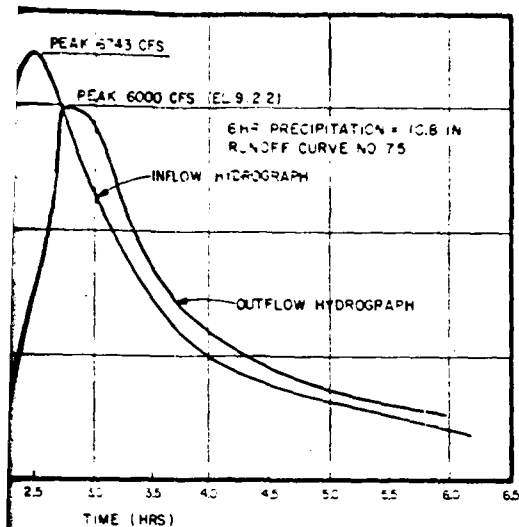
STAGE DISCHARGE RELATIONSHIP  
FOR EMERGENCY SPILLWAY



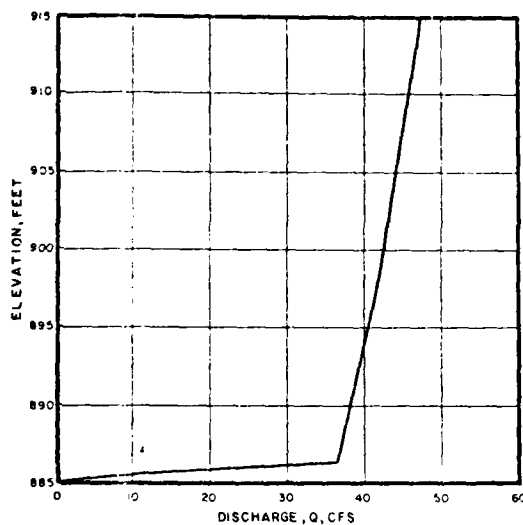
50% PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION  
STORM INFLOW - OUTFLOW HYDROGRAPH



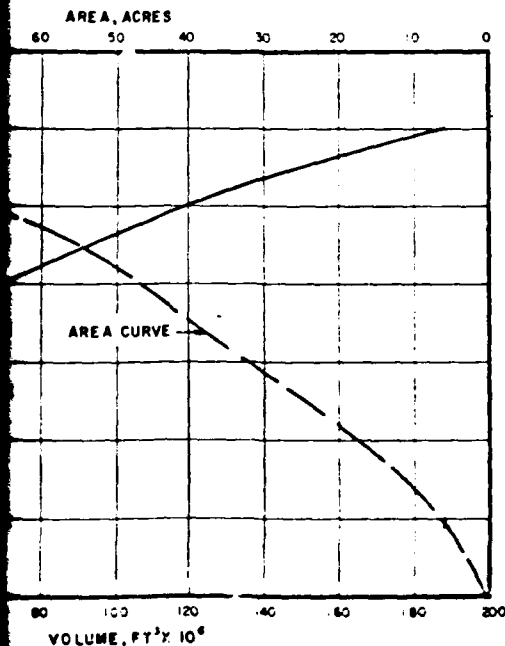
ELEVATION VS AREA AND VOLUME



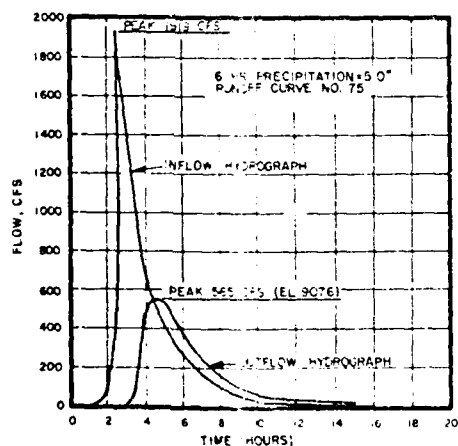
MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION  
V - OUTFLOW HYDROGRAPHS



STAGE DISCHARGE RELATIONSHIP FOR  
DECANT STRUCTURE



Vs AREA AND VOLUME



100 YEAR STORM  
INFLOW-OUTFLOW HYDROGRAPH

PLATE 11

UNISIL CORPORATION  
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

**FOOT**

HYDROLOGY AND SURVEILLANCE

TAILINGS DISPOSAL, L. 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

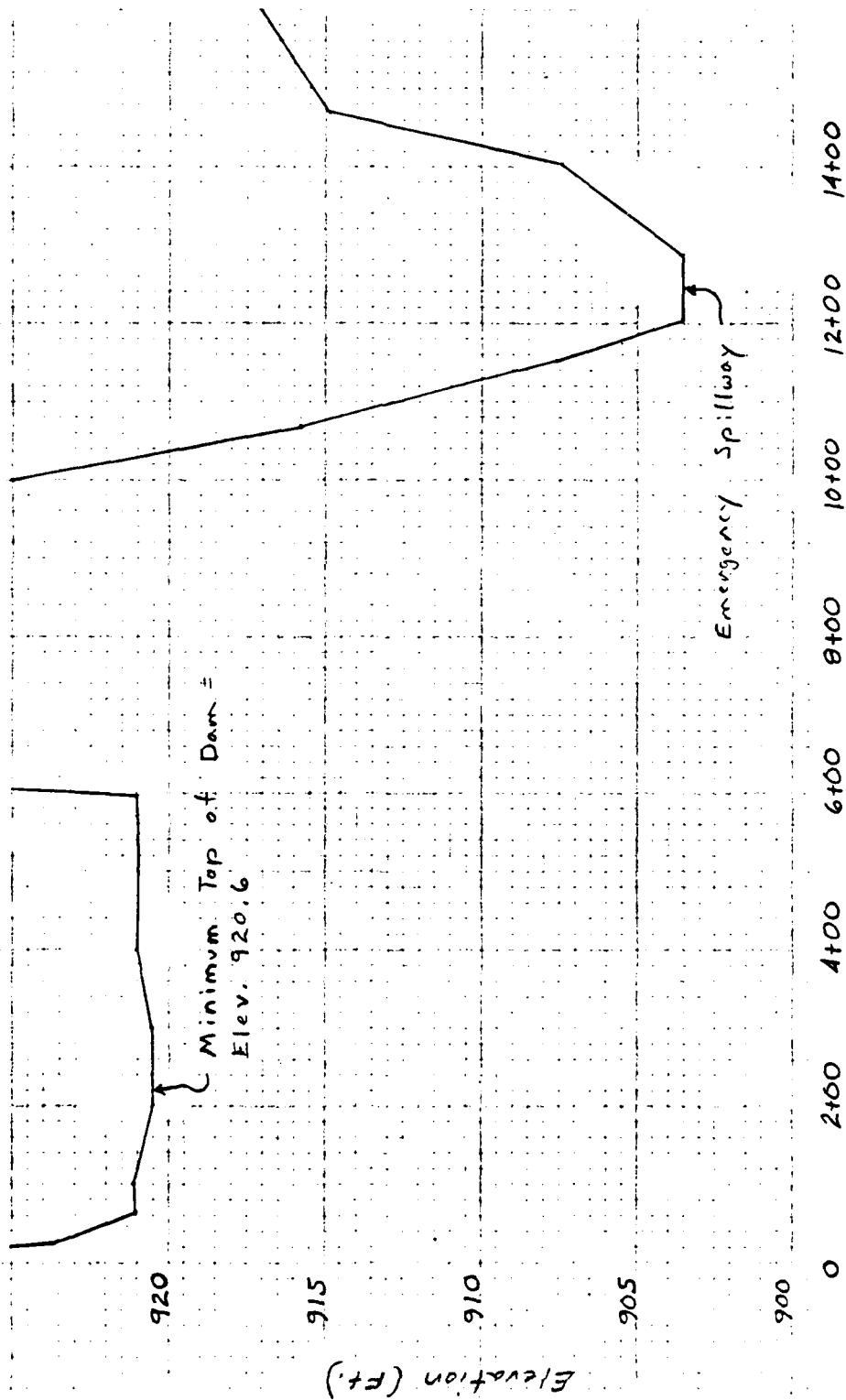
DRAWN BY: [ ]  
CHECKED BY: [ ]  
DATE: [ ]

MICHAEL BAKER, JR., INC.

THE BAKER ENGINEERS

Box 280  
Beaver, Pa. 15009

Top of Dam and Spillway Profile, Looking Downstream



Distance (Ft.)

PLATE 12

MICHAEL BAKER, JR., INC.  
THE BAKER ENGINEERS

Box 280  
Beaver, Pa. 15009

Dam Cross Section at Sta. 2+00

Crest Width = 21.6 Feet

Slope  
2.45H:1V

Slope  
2.8H:1V

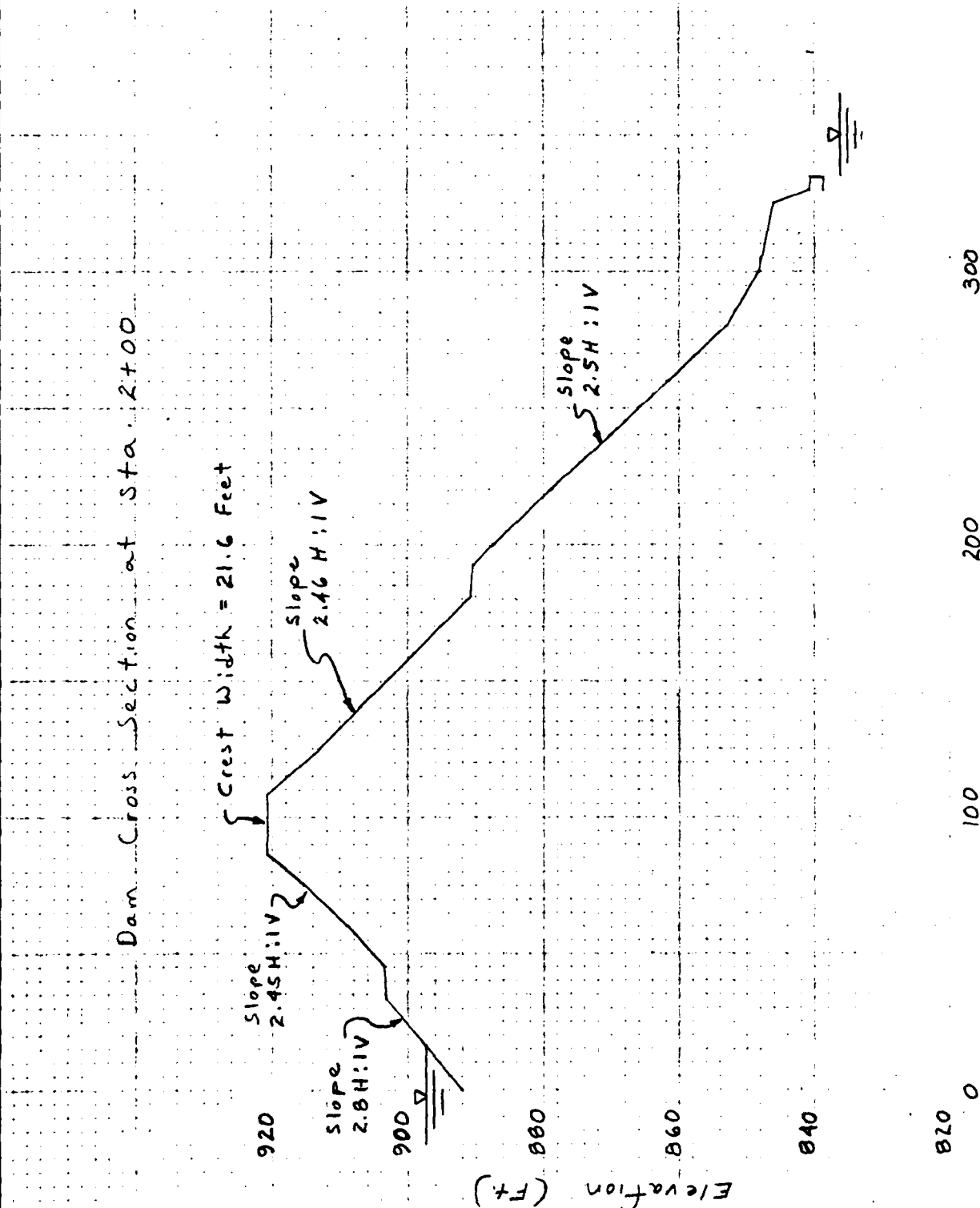
Slope  
2.46H:1V

Slope  
2.5H:1V

Elevation (Ft.)

Distance (Ft.)

PLATE 13





APPENDIX II  
PHOTOGRAPHS

## CONTENTS

- Photo 1 - Emergency Spillway (Natural Saddle), Decant Inlet
- Photo 2 - View Across Emergency Spillway Control Section, Men  
Standing on Small Berm in Eroded Discharge Channel
- Photo 3 - Downstream Embankment, Decant Outlet, Seepage  
Area (Covered Drain?) in Channel to Right of  
Decant Outlet
- Photo 4 - Decant Outlet, Stilling Basin
- Photo 5 - Seep (Covered Drain?) Emanating from Channel  
Immediately Left of Decant Outlet
- Photo 6 - Erosion on Downstream Embankment
- Photo 7 - Erosion at Junction of Downstream Embankment  
with Left Abutment
- Photo 8 - Downstream View from Crest

Note: Photographs taken on 30 October 1980.

NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

## UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

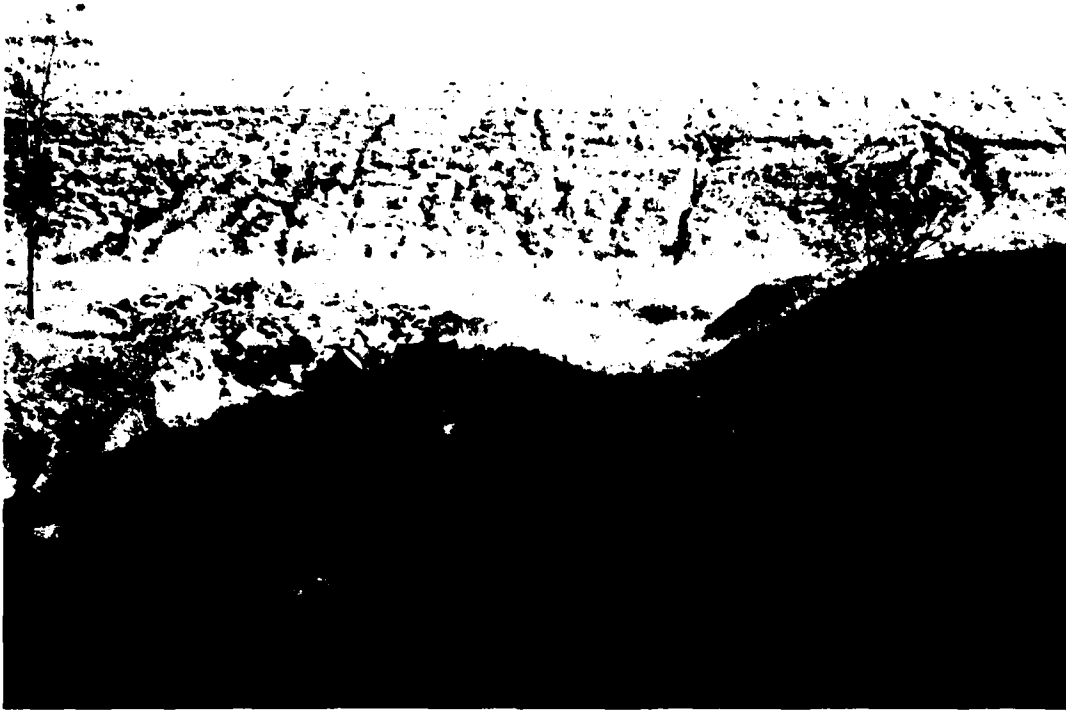


**PHOTO 1. Emergency Spillway (Natural Saddle) and Decant Inlet**



**PHOTO 2. View Across Emergency Spillway Control Section  
Note: Men Standing on Small Berm in Eroded Discharge Channel**

## UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM



**PHOTO 3. Downstream Embankment, Decant Outlet and Seepage Area in Channel to Right of Decant Outlet**



**PHOTO 4. Decant Outlet and Stilling Basin**

## UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

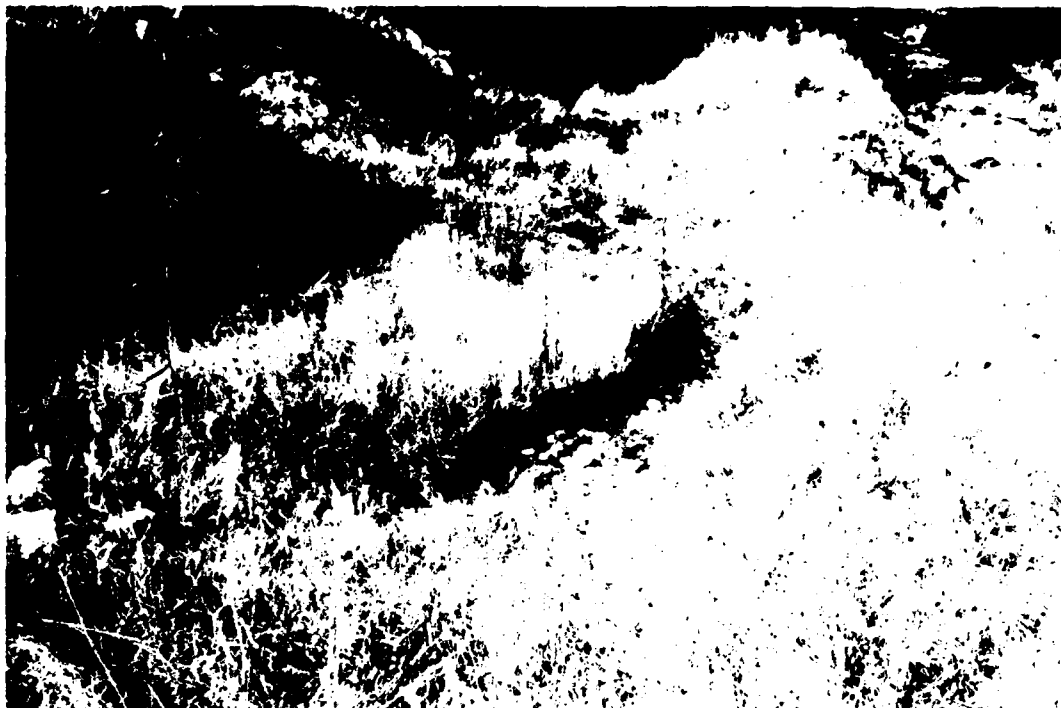


PHOTO 5. Seep Emanating from Channel Immediately Left of Decant Outlet

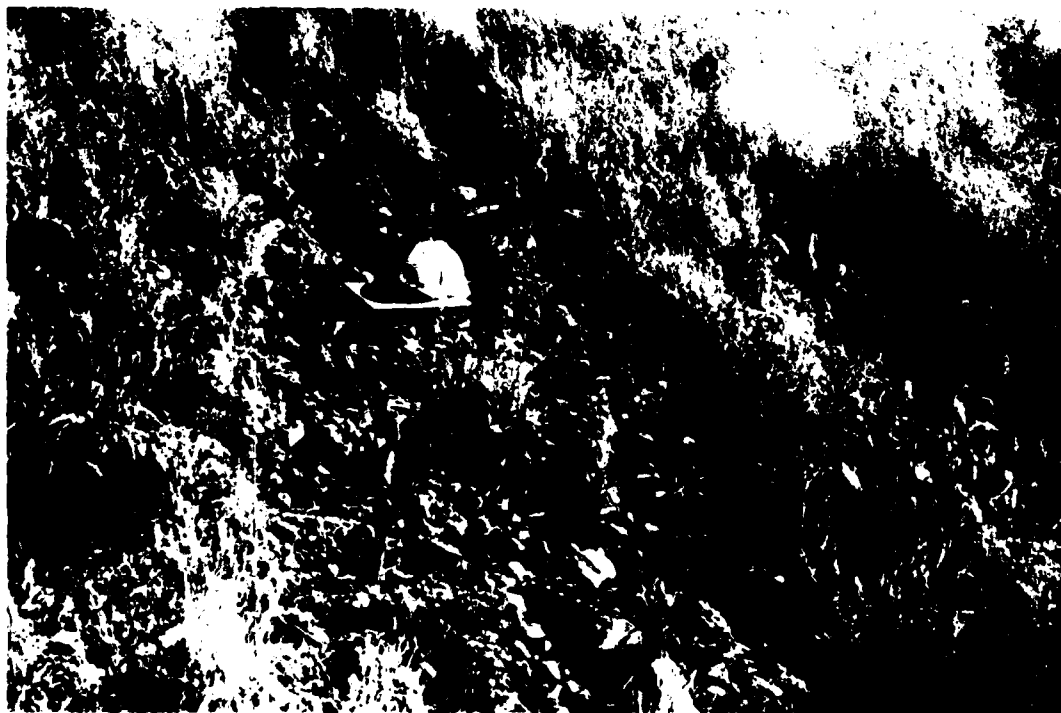


PHOTO 6. Erosion on Downstream Embankment

# **UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM**



**PHOTO 7. Erosion at Junction of Downstream Embankment with  
Left Abutment**



**PHOTO 8. Downstream View from Crest**

APPENDIX III  
VISUAL INSPECTION CHECK LIST

Check List  
Visual Inspection  
Phase 1

Name of Dam Unimin Tailings Dam County Frederick State Virginia Coordinates Lat. 3914.6  
Long. 7820.3

Date of Inspection 30 and 31 October 1980 Weather Clear Temperature 50° F.

Pool Elevation at Time of Inspection 897.4 ft. T.B.M.\* Tailwater at Time of Inspection 836.2 ft. T.B.M.\*

\*Elevations were referenced to a Temporary Bench Mark (T.B.M.) located on the top of a concrete marker on the top of dam, right abutment. The assumed elevation is 921.0 ft.

Inspection Personnel:

Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.:

David J. Greenwood  
Larry A. Diday  
David W. Hupe

Virginia State Water Control Board:

Ed Constantine

Owner's Representatives:

Keith Tubandt

David W. Hupe Recorder



# EMBANKMENT

Name of Dam UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF                                  | OBSERVATIONS  | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS   |
|--|---|--|
| SURFACE CRACKS   | None observed. The ground surface of the embankment and abutments was generally dry.  |  |
| UNUSUAL MOVEMENT OR CRACKING AT OR BEYOND THE TOE      | None observed   |  |
| SLOUGHING OR EROSION OF EMBANKMENT AND ABUTMENT SLOPES | <p>The upstream embankment and the bench just above the water line are well covered with grass. Minor erosion has occurred below the bench at the water line. The bench is a reverse terrace, and drainage sits on the back side of the terrace at times. The embankment below the bench is unvegetated and not ripped. The embankment above the bench is not eroded.</p> <p>The lower half of the downstream embankment below the bench is moderately eroded. Erosion rills up to 1 ft. deep extend from the bench to the toe of the dam. A</p> <p>(Continued next page)</p> | Repair all eroded areas of the embankment and establish grass cover over the sparsely vegetated areas. |

# EMBANKMENT

Name of Dam UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF   | OBSERVATIONS   | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS  |
|---|--|---|
| SLOUGHING OR EROSION OF EMBANKMENT AND ABUTMENT SLOPES<br>(Continued) | few erosion rills are present on the downstream embankment above the bench. Generally, these rills do not extend up to the crest. The upper half of the downstream embankment is well vegetated, with the exception of the rills. The lower half of the downstream embankment is sparsely vegetated. | The dam is regularly surveyed for alignment and elevation at the control pins established. These reports were no available. |
| VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT OF THE CREST                        | No misalignments were observed.  | Riprap is needed on the junction areas of the downstream embankment and both abutments (below the bench).                   |
| EMBANKMENT MATERIALS  | The embankment is constructed of brown silt with a little fine to medium sand and many sandstone fragments.  |   |
| OTHER   | It is proposed that the present embankment soon be raised to provide additional tailing disposal.  | Many of the above recommendations may be taken care of during the future enlargement of the dam.                            |

# EMBANKMENT

Name of Dam UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF                                 | OBSERVATIONS   | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS   |
|---|--|--|
| JUNCTION OF EMBANKMENT AND ABUTMENT, SPILLWAY AND DAM | <p>The right upstream embankment/abutment junction contains access roads to the crest and to the upstream bench. The slopes for the access roads are steep and subject to erosion and minor slides. However, the access roads are cut primarily into bedrock and are mostly situated on the abutment, not the dam, therefore no problems are anticipated. The left upstream junction is not eroded.</p> <p>The downstream embankment/abutment junctions are slightly to moderately eroded, particularly below the bench.</p> | <p>Repair and riprap the downstream junctions of embankment and abutment.</p>          |
| ANY NOTICEABLE SEEPAGE                                | <p>Seepage of 3-5 g.p.m. occurs immediately to the left of the spillway outlet. This is believed to be drainage from a lateral seepage drain outlet. Very minor seepage occurs beneath the spillway outlet. No seepage was observed to the right of the outlet.</p>  | <p>The drain(s) should be uncovered to ensure proper operation.</p>                    |
| STAFF GAGE AND RECORDER                               | <p>None present</p>  | <p>A staff gage should be installed to monitor reservoir levels above normal pool.</p> |

DRAINS

# OUTLET WORKS

Name of Dam: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF  | OBSERVATIONS   | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS  |
|--|--|---|
| CRACKING AND SPALLING OF<br>CONCRETE SURFACES IN<br>OUTLET CONDUIT | N/A  |   |
| INTAKE STRUCTURE   | The intake for the principal spillway is a 30 in. dia. B.C.C.M.P. riser. A 42 in. dia. steel pipe fits over the 30 in. dia. pipe and is anchored with cables. Concrete fills the space between the pipes. A gate valve is attached to the riser about 4 ft. below the crest. | Operation of the gate valve lowers the reservoir pool about 4 ft. to provide more water for use downstream. |
| OUTLET STRUCTURE   | The outlet is a 24 in. dia. B.C.C.M.P. It extends 5.5 ft. over the stilling basin without support.<br><br>A large, well riprapped stilling basin is provided.  |   |
| OUTLET CHANNEL   | The outlet channel drains into the reservoir for the Unimin Fresh Water impoundment immediately downstream.  | The normal pool of the Fresh Water Impoundment does not submerge the toe of the Tailings Dam.               |
| EMERGENCY GATE   | N/A  |   |

# UNGATED SPILLWAY

Name of Dam: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF | OBSERVATIONS   | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS   |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| EMERGENCY SPILLWAY    | <p>The emergency spillway is a broad natural saddle situated immediately right of the dam's embankment.</p> <p>Fill (very sandy with a lot of sandstone fragments) has been spread in the saddle area to build up the level of the emergency spillway. The fill is generally unvegetated. A definite channel is visible, but a narrow dam or temporary roadway runs across the channel. The narrow dam is not sufficiently wide to resist an impounding of water behind it for an extended period of time, nor will it resist rapid erosion if overtopped.</p> | <p>A good grass cover should be established over the sparsely vegetated areas of the emergency spillway.</p> |
| APPROACH CHANNEL      | <p>The approach channel is wide and unobstructed. The channel is generally unvegetated.</p>  | <p>A good grass cover should be established over the entire channel.</p>                                     |
| DISCHARGE CHANNEL     | <p>The unobstructed discharge channel runs through the fill materials discussed above and is only sparsely vegetated.</p>  | <p>A good grass cover should be established over the entire channel.</p>                                     |
| BRIDGE AND PIERS      | <p>N/A</p>   |  |

# INSTRUMENTATION

Name of Dam: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION    | OBSERVATIONS  | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS   |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| MONUMENTATION/SURVEYS | None observed   |  |
| OBSERVATION WELLS     | None present  |  |
| WEIRS                 | None present  |  |
| PIEZOMETERS           | One piezometer near each end of dam crest and a cluster (3 piezometers) on the crest near the center. Left piezometer - 60 ft. to bottom with no water. The other piezometers on the crest were plugged near the surface and could not be measured. | A cluster of 3 piezometers is located on the bench of the downstream embankment (center of bench). The piezometer with the highest elevation could not be measured due to equipment malfunction. The next lower piezometer measured 15.17 ft. to the bottom and was dry. The lowest piezometer measured 32.87 ft. to the bottom and was dry. |
| OTHER                 |   |  |

# RESERVOIR

Name of Dam: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF | OBSERVATIONS   | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|
| SLOPES                | The slopes are steep and heavily wooded. The banks of the reservoir are well vegetated with grasses and some trees down to the edge of the banks. No indications of significant erosion were observed. |                            |
| SEDIMENTATION         | Soundings taken show water to be approximately 5 ft. deep at the spillway riser.   |                            |
|                       |  |                            |
|                       |  |                            |
|                       |  |                            |
|                       |  |                            |

# DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL

Name of Dam: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

| VISUAL EXAMINATION OF | OBSERVATIONS | REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|

CONDITION  
(OBSTRUCTIONS,  
DEBRIS, ETC.)

The Unimin Fresh Water Pond is immediately downstream. The connecting channel is unobstructed. Downstream of the Fresh Water Pond Dam there is some minor debris, a small pile of junk and a trailer in the channel.

SLOPES

The channel downstream of the Fresh Water Pond Dam is a natural stream channel with about a 2% slope. The side slopes are steep and covered with trees and brush.

III-9

APPROXIMATE NO.  
OF HOMES AND  
POPULATION

Three homes are located about 1.0 mi. downstream, one business (C.E. Minerals) about 1.2 mi. downstream, and three more homes about 1.4 mi. downstream. These structures are located about 10 to 15 ft. above the streambed.



APPENDIX IV  
GENERAL REFERENCES

## GENERAL REFERENCES

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NAME OF DAM: UNIMIN TAILINGS DAM

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